



PSC PORTFOLIO

The Philadelphia Sketch Club ~ Founded in 1860

july/august 2001

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Dinner Meeting on September 14th

As you sit on your porches this summer, enjoying a good cold glass of lemonade, take a moment to notice all the coming events for the fall. Our biggest event will be the Thomas Eakin's show for which we would like to make the club worthy of such an honor. Many pieces are on loan and we need as many volunteers as possible to make sure these pieces are protected. This is your club and we need you to step forth and show the public how proud we are of our well respected former member. Ease yourself back into the swing of things at the club by coming to our dinner meeting – swap stories of the summer and learn about computerized imaging. "Giclee" (pronounced 'zheclay,' from the french for 'spraying of ink') prints, also known as Iris prints, are produced by a jet process, driven by computerized imaging, but controlled by the rigid standards of fine art printmaking techniques." So reads a definition of this new technology and, at September's meeting, you can compare your own 'rigid standards of printmaking' with those of a representative of a local leader in this field, VanGoghAgain Galleries, Inc. Displayed will be an original work (perhaps by one of the Members) in traditional medium along with the various giclee prints made with a variety options offered by this controversial fine arts process. Promises to be a very instructive evening – on top of a fine dinner and conversation!!

Welcome

to our new member:

Associate
Steve Messenger

Art Natters

Morris Shatzkin! He's done it again. Out of the last four years (or maybe its been four for four or five for five), he has AGAIN won a prize at the Woodmere Art Museum's Members' Exhibition. In Woodmere's 61st Annual Members' Exhibition, Morris' oil painting "The Model" was awarded the Harry A. Harris Prize. Other Sketch Club members in the exhibition include **Howard Alber, Mary Beaumont, Richard S. Chew, Jr., Michael Kunceвич, Alan Fetterman, Eric Spaeth, Irma Shapiro, Clemmie King, Jack Gerber, Bob Grooms, Rudolph S. DiFelice, Ranulph Bye** (as was **Glenna Lange Bye**), **Irv Docktor, Eleanor Jacobson, Eva Boross Ramanuskas, Peter F. Petraglia, Harriet Ermentrout, Barbara Keogh, and Elizabeth H. MacDonald.** The exhibition will run from July 22 through September 2, 2001. Woodmere is located at 9201 Germantown Avenue in the Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia. For information call (215) 247-0476.

The Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts will hold its 104th Annual Membership Exhibition at Historic Yellow Springs in September. **Jack Gerber** will be honored as the Featured Artist and will have a room devoted exclusively to his works. Other Sketch Club members in the exhibition include **Hilarie Hawley, Pamela Sinkler-Todd, Elizabeth H. MacDonald** and **Michael Kunceвич.** The exhibition will have a reception on Sunday, September 9th, from 3 to 5 PM.

Eva Boross Ramanuskas was presented with the Honor Award in Watercolor at the Fine Arts and Contemporary Crafts Show held at Peddler's Village, Bucks County, in June.

Bob Grooms exhibited two watercolors at Montgomery County Community College in an invited group of 15 award winners in the recent Oreland Art Center juried shows. The show runs through August 20, 2001. Sketch Club member **Clemmie King,** made all the arrangements.

Hilarie Hawley has an exhibition of her works at Inn Philadelphia that will run for the months of July & August.

Domenic DiStefano has been elected by ballot as one of the three jurors to serve on the Jury of Awards for the American Watercolor Society's International Exhibition to be held in 2002. Dee also had a painting accepted in the Adirondacks National Exhibition of American Watercolor 2001.

Doree Loschiavo will be conducting a painting workshop in Pescara, Italy. Spend 10 days in a beautiful restored farmhouse near the Adriatic Sea from October 9th to October 18th, 2001. Space is limited. For more information, call 215-336-1724.

Eleanor Jacobson has an oil in the Oreland Art Center's current exhibition.

Calendar of Events

August

No Dinner Meeting!

20

August Board Meeting

September

14

September Dinner Meeting

24

September Board Meeting

October

12

October Dinner Meeting

14

"Thomas Eakins and His Fellow Artists at The Philadelphia Sketch Club" show opens
2 to 5 PM

21

Opening Reception for "Thomas Eakins and His Fellow Artists at The Philadelphia Sketch Club"
2 to 5 PM

22

September Board Meeting

November

18

Closing Reception for Exhibition "Thomas Eakins and His Fellow Artists at The Philadelphia Sketch Club" & Founders Day Celebration
2 to 5 PM

Note: For the information of new members, monthly dinner meetings include a social hour at 6 PM, dinner at 7 PM and an after dinner speaker. Reservations for the dinner meeting can be made by calling the Sketch Club, (215) 545-9298, by the Wednesday before the meeting and leaving a message under the appropriate code.

Arthur Ostroff has four watercolors in the 2001 Summer Exhibition at Two Commerce Square, 20th & Market Streets. The show was organized by the Art Sales & Rental Gallery of The Philadelphia Museum of Art, where he has original pieces and CityScene prints.

Jack Gerber will have three works in the Figures & Portraits Invitational 2001 Exhibition at the Center for the Arts of Southern New Jersey, 123 S. Elmwood Road, Marlton, NJ. The exhibition will open with a reception on September 7th from 7 to 9 PM and will run through September 28th.

Memorial ~ Carter Fisher, Sr.

In memory of Carter Fisher, Sr. who joined the Sketch Club as a non-artist member in 1969, a member for 31 years. Illness limited his contacts in the last few years. His death, August 1, 2000, was not published in the city papers and only revealed to the club by notice that we were a recipient of a generous donation in his estate. Carter, elected a Distinguished member in 1993, enjoyed the company of artists, the Grub Club, the meetings, lectures and exhibitions. He served on the Board and the Finance Committee, sharing his knowledge of business and the insurance industry. He was active in many businesses and civic associations. Less we forget, before all this, he had a distinguished military career as a Marine. Carter, a friend, is truly missed. – Bob Grooms

Art Collection

As previously reported, the painting "In the Studio" by **Hugh Henry Breckenridge** (1870-1937) was donated to the Sketch Club by Breckenridge's granddaughter and great-granddaughters. Terry Newman has generously offered to have it restored by Newman Galleries. Due to the painting's size (5' x 6') and its poor condition, restoration will take considerable time. Progress on this work is continuing. Newman Galleries will also be restoring two of the William Thomson portraits in the foyer that have some chipped paint. One of these is in process and will be completed before the end of the summer.

Grant Committee Report

No new grants have been received. We are in the process of selecting a contractor to do the roof rafter reinforcement in the gallery's ceiling. This involves removing all plaster from the ceiling above the cornice, reinforcing the roof rafters and supports as specified by the architectural engineer, installing a new gypsum lath and veneer plaster ceiling, and painting. This work will be completed in August before the workshops resume after Labor Day. Other work that will follow includes reinforcing the first floor supports under the entranceway, installing panic hardware on some exit doors, expanding the fire detection system, and installing a fire escape outside the model's (Haft) room.

Archive Report

We are slowing our usual work in Archives during the summer months for several reasons: Heat and vacations, the coming interior construction, and the work many of the friends of Archives along with others in preparing for the Club's Fall Eakins exhibition. I would remind all member to continue to give us material for your members file. It is your permanent repository for any items you desire to be preserved for posterity. Place your items in the file tray atop the distribution box the entry hall. **Dick Cohen** (610-352-3692)

Call for Volunteers

We need Studio Tour artists to exhibit a half dozen or so works at the Sketch Club on Saturday, October, 20th & Sunday October, 21st from 11am to 6pm. The Philadelphia Open Studio Tours (POST) organized through the Philadelphia City Office of Arts and Culture and the Fleisher Art Memorial has asked the Sketch Club to join this year's Tour by showing as a group at the Club during our landmark "Thomas Eakins and His Fellow Artists at the Philadelphia Sketch Club" Exhibition. Here's an opportunity to host Tour-attendees from all over the region and beyond while at the same time showing your work with the Club's all-time great past Members and associates like **Eakins, Redfield, Wagner, Pennell, Calder, English, Dull, Frost...** you know, that crowd! Sign up now! Remember, there's limited space – first-come first-gets-to-show!!! For more information, call **Donald Meyer** (610) 525-4856.

Exhibitions

Eakins Circle Show

The 2001-02 exhibitions season at the Philadelphia Sketch Club is about to begin! Our initial event, an exhibition entitled "Thomas Eakins and his Fellow Artists at the Philadelphia Sketch Club" promises to be unique, exciting, and most significant. The show will consist of paintings, prints, drawings, sculpture and photographs created by Thomas Eakins and his contemporaries at the Sketch Club. This exhibition will run from October 14th to November 18th. Please join us for all the festivities and the exuberance of this significant event! I will be approaching the general membership for volunteers to help staff the building, conduct tours and generally assist me during exhibition hours and special events. We must all pull together to ensure the success of this exciting endeavor. – **Steve Iwanczuk**, *Chairman, Exhibitions Committee*

The exhibition "Thomas Eakins and His Fellow Artists at the Philadelphia Sketch Club" is currently in its planning stage and will be on exhibition from October 14th through November 18th. This will be one of the most important exhibitions ever held at the Sketch Club. It will complement the Eakins exhibition at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Susan MacDowell Eakins exhibition at Woodmere, and the Eakins drawings exhibition at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. It will feature works by **Eakins, Anshutz, Pennell, Frost, the Bensells, the Morans**, and a host of other Sketch Club related artists from the Eakins era. Don't miss out on seeing this important event. More information will be presented in next month's Portfolio. – **Bill Patterson**, *President*

Late-Breaking News! This just in: Thomas Eakins' "Portrait of the Rt. Rev. John J. Fedigan, 1902," a major work (according to the artist himself), will be part of our "Thomas Eakins and His Fellow Artists at the Philadelphia Sketch Club" Exhibition! This oil has not been exhibited publicly since he painted it for the Augustinian Order at what was then Villanova College 99 years ago! The large work measuring nearly 8' x 4' feet will be accompanied by a catalogue essay by Sketch Club Friend **Dr. Mark Sullivan**, recounting Eakins' own claim that this was indeed one of his finest works. Be at the Opening Reception or – better yet, come join the exhibition committee in mounting the Show and welcoming Ol' Tom back to the Club! There's lots to do and you can be part of a truly great Club event! Welcome home, Tom! – **Don Meyer**, *Chairman, Exhibitions Committee*

Exhibitions Schedule

Stephen Iwanczuk, our new Exhibitions chair, has finished the Exhibition Schedule for 2001/2002. Mark your calendars and search through your flat files for entries. All dates are tentative and subject to change. Reception announcements will be listed in *The Portfolio*.

Title	Dates	Chairperson
Eakins Circle	October 14th – November 18th	Bill Patterson, President; Don Meyer; Steve Iwanczuk; Alan Klawans; Dick Cohen
Works on Paper	December 9th – January 13th	Ed Letven
Legacy Show	December 9th – January 13th	Don Meyer
Photo 2001	January 20th – February 17th	Steve Iwanczuk
Student Show	February 24th – March 3rd	Bill Patterson, photographer
Small Oils	March 17th – April 28th	Bill Patterson, President
Poet/Artist	May 5th – June 2nd	Alan Beldyk

Who's That?

Hugh McMillen Hutton

Cartoonist - 1897 – 1976

Although he's been gone for 25 years, Hugh McMillen Hutton's presence continues in the Club's present memory. Ask around and someone might remember hot days in the upstairs gallery when, following Hugh's suggestion to be comfortable, they undressed to paint. Hugh even recorded the event in a cartoon – and for a small sum I will tell you where it is. Someone also might remember him tripping near the Fish House Punch and the effort to upright his six feet and two hundred pounds – in order to rescue the punch.

His genes are still floating about our club in the presence of his daughter, Betty MacDonald, and his granddaughter Susan Hutton DeAngelus. Could we be witnessing a Sketch Club dynasty?

Betty gave me this story about her father: Before heading down to Fortescue for a weekend Sketch Club party, he had to stop at the office to create a new cartoon, being how the news can change so quickly and not in a time of the fax machine or e-mail. Arriving after dark, he took a wrong turn and drove right into Delaware Bay. With water all around the car, he decided not to get out, in that it would ruin his wooden leg*. So he stayed in his car and slept. In the morning some fishermen came by and rescued the car with Hugh in it – before the tide came in.

*In 1917, when he was 19, Hugh enlisted in the First Minnesota Artillery. While on guard duty at a flour mill, he was accidentally shot with a .45 caliber Colt by the fellow recruit who was supposed to relieve him. The bullet passed through his left leg and lodged in his right leg. To save his life, the left leg was amputated.

Hugh was an artist, an etcher and lithographer, but he was always a newspaperman. Born 1897 in Lincoln, Nebraska, he began his newspaper career at the age of 8 to deliver the *Nebraska State Journal*, then working in that paper's pressroom – feeding paper into the presses, and eventually telegraph editor. He soon brought his artistic talent and jovial sense of humor to interpreting the news. He became a cartoonist for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* in 1925, for the *Public Ledger* in 1933, and for the *Inquirer* in 1934, where he worked until retiring in 1970. In the 1950s, he traveled overseas to entertain the troops by taking to the stage and drawing caricatures. They were called "chalk-talks." As a cartoonist, his works have often been reprinted in *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, and *Time Magazine*. He has been honored many times, coming in second many times for a Pulitzer.

There is an etching by Hugh in the etching room. It depicts fellow member Fred Weber surrounded by bugs attracted to his new experimental media. Attracting bugs seemed typical of Fred's experiments with each new medium.

He was a member of the Philadelphia Sketch Club from 1941 until his death in 1976. He was married for 51 years to artist Dorothy Wackerman, and as Betty remembers: "Every Monday night both my parents went to the Sketch Club to do etchings – actually my Father often went up to the workshop and worked from the model, but was on call to turn the etching press as the women in the group found this difficult."

*Compiled from the PSC Archives by
Bruce Bentzman & Betty MacDonald*



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235 South Camac Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5608

“What If’s”

What would have been the effect on Monet’s art...

if sunglasses had been invented.

or Toulouse-Lautrec...

if growth hormones were around...

and what about lithium for VanGogh?

– The Curmudgeon

*Al Bowe is on vacation and his fabulous illustrations will be back starting in September.
Thanks to the Curmudgeon for this tidbit. – Editor*

NEXT DINNER MEETING: SEPTEMBER 14TH

News for the Newsletter?

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

Via e-mail:

sketchnews@hotmail.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 September issue: August 23rd

Restoration Fund Drives Annual Legacy Show & Sale

Don't look now, but there's only 117 shopping days until... well, you know! Just a reminder that the 2nd Annual Legacy Show & Sale will be held in early December to benefit – us!!! A Legacy, you'll recall, is an small fine work of art presented for sale just before Christmas at a show open to the public as well as the Membership, the proceeds all go to our Restoration Project. So, think of it this way: "There are only 100 or so painting, sculpting, printmaking days until the Legacy Show & Sale!" More details on this year's event later.

Summer Gala at The Plastic Club

Sunday, August 26th from 4-7pm

A light buffet supper will be served. This event is a fundraiser for their restoration fund. Wine and hors d'oeuvres (provided by the Inn of Philadelphia) at 4pm; buffet supper at 5pm in the Plastic Club garden (weather permitting). \$20 donation is requested and you are invited to bring guests. Please RSVP to the Plastic Club by August 24th (Checks payable by mail or pay at the door). The Plastic Club, 247 South Camac Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107; 215.545.9324

Plastic Club Sidewalk Art Sale

Saturday, September 15th & Sunday, September 16th - 11am - 4pm

Clean-out your studios, attics, and basements! We need your art, framed, un-framed, large, small, good, bad, paintings, sketches, sculptures, all of it! Remember: "Your trash might be someone's treasure." Please donate for the restoration fund, as we need the funds to re-paint, fix and repair/replace the outside facade of the building. All donations to be delivered to The Plastic Club by the Summer Gala on August 26th. Volunteers to work the Sidewalk Sale are needed. Contact: Paul Struweg (610.737.2586) or Betty MacDonald (610.664.1997)