

"If you hear a voice within you say "you cannot paint," then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced."

-Vincent Van Gogh

The Artistic Times

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New Editor Announced!

The West Suburban Artists League is pleased to announce a new Editor for our Newsletter! Mary McHugh, also the Guilds' newest Artist Member, has volunteered to take on our monthly newsletter. Mary intends to modify the existing newsletter in both content and in readability.

There will be a new format to our monthly communication focused on artist opportunities, member information, member artist biography, patron biography and reminders for upcoming events. However, the newsletter will try to avoid redundancies with the information already available on our website. Details regarding upcoming events are always available on our website: www.westsuburbanartistsguild.org and you are encouraged to utilize this site for all important WSAG information.

Please email any information you would like included in the newsletter to podgy14@msn.com or mmchugh@lssaturn.com by the 15th of each month.

2008 Members Show Success!

Thank you to all WSAG members who participated in our 80th Annual Fine Art Exhibit. The work presented spoke of the artistic talent, and passion of WSAG Members. The Fall Members' Exhibit Committee hung the show in the Triton gallery; demonstrating an aesthetic eye, and provided a professional presentation to the public.

A special thanks goes to DECO, who did a wonderful job of judging the exhibit. Her thought provoking and educational explanations of the works were both enlightening and inspiring, and provided an outline for patrons to follow when exploring works of art in the future.

Award winners of the 2008 WSAG Member's Show are automatically eligible to participate in the Alliance of Fine Art's "Best of the Best" show. For more information, contact AFA Delegate Carol Friedle at WSAG, or go to www.allianceoffineart.org.

It's the Economy, Stupid!

Short on cash? High on creativity? Would you like to participate in an art class, but don't have the extra money for tuition or supplies? Apply today and receive one of eight **\$50.00 scholarships** provided by WSAG. Simply provide a copy of your class registration and receipt of class payment to WSAG Treasurer, Mary Meike, and she will send you a check for \$50.00 to alleviate some of your class costs! Act now – there are only three scholarships remaining! troutt@comcast.net

2008-2009 WSAG Officers & Committees

President	Susan Szymanski
1 st Vice President	Maureen McDonald
2 nd Vice President	Tom Harrison
3 rd Vice President	Marge Zwadlo
Recording Secretary	Volunteer Needed
Corresponding Secretary	Clara Cunningham
Treasurer	Mary Meike
Directors	Mary Jo Bruno, Carol Friedle Ken Salerno, Diana Nawrocki, Pat Getz
Art In The Park Chair	Susan Szymanski
Publicity Coordinator	Volunteer Needed
Newsletter	Mary McHugh
Membership	Mary King
Programs	Pat Getz
Fall Member's Exhibit	Marion Sirefman, Jim & Karen Bolek
Artist Jury	Dennis Bohlman, Ken Salerno
AFA Delegate	Carol Friedle
WSAG Historian	Lynnice Bohlman
Hospitality	Mary Jo Bruno
Student Scholarships:	
High School	Katie Mussio
Triton College	Susan Szymanski

Volunteers Needed!

In order for WSAG to progress as an important Artists Organization, we must be able to keep up with the important forms of communication that will allow us to attract other important artists in the community to participate in our programs. Not only will this increase our credibility and recognition as an important and viable artists' organization, but will also increase organizational revenue in terms of jury fees; membership dues; booth fees, etc. Increased revenue will allow us to expand the opportunities that the West Suburban Art League brings to the community at large.

The roles of **Recording Secretary** and **Publicity Coordinator** are vital to the success of our organization, as it is through publicity that we will let our voice be heard. While we all enjoy the monthly meetings, and exhibition opportunities afforded us through our association with WSAG, we must keep in mind that the success of WSAG is dependant upon the Volunteers of our Membership to participate in various roles and committees, as well as to communicate our presence in the art world – locally in the River Grove/Oak Park Arts Community; but also in the larger Chicago and Illinois arts communities. Anyone interested in acting in the role of **Publicity Coordinator** or **Recording Secretary** should contact WSAG President Susan Szymanski at wsagprez@sbcglobal.net.

PUBLICITY PAGE

The Artists News is a great place for our artists and members to advertise their arts related businesses, upcoming shows and exhibition opportunities directly to our members! Send any information or ad copy to podgy14@msn.com or mmchugh@lssaturn.com



Artistic Inspirations

Mark Your Calendar!

Art Resources, Opportunities And Upcoming Deadlines!

November 8th is WSAG's bus trip to the SOFA SHOW in Chicago – contact Mary Meike trout7@comcast.net for more information.

November 21st: WSAG 8:00 pm Program: Rock Painting with Vicki Surena

December 7th: WSAG Holiday Party. Go to www.westsuburbanartistsguild.org for more information on all WSAG events.

November 14th is the last day to submit your artwork to the Oak Park Art League for Artist Member Jury. www.opal-art.com

December 15th 2008 is the deadline to submit your application (www.zapplication.org) for jury into the Old Town Art Fair. www.oldtowntriangle.org

January 15th 2008 is the deadline to submit your general application to participate in all shows produced by Amdur Productions, including the Gold Coast Art Fair. Go to www.amdurproductions.com for all information.

The website for **Sunshine Artist Magazine** provides a free search engine that lists shows by date, city & state, or you may search by category, such as "Fine Art", "Fine Craft", etc. Most importantly, they also provide the show entry deadlines so that you can plan ahead and won't miss those important dates! They also rate art fairs/shows by attendance, artist revenue and hospitality. For more information: www.sunshineartist.com.

Woman Made Gallery always has exhibition opportunities for local, national and international men and women artists - and you don't have to be a member to jury into one of their shows! Check out all this organization has to offer at www.womanmade.org.

November 12th, 2008 is the deadline to participate in Woman Made's 12th International Open Group Show.

March 6th, 2009 is the deadline to have your artwork or poetry considered for publication in the Woman Made Her Mark 2009 Calendar.

Do you have an urgent deadline, opportunity, or resource to share? Email them to: mmchugh@lssaturn.com

"Regardless of subject matter, art should effect a reaction in people, good or bad. No reaction makes a blank and no involvement occurs. Viewers relate to the things I create. I'm often told "Its entertainment for my mind and soul" and that they can almost 'hear the music!'" – **Cherrie Salerno**

"A lifelong passion for animals and nature is evident in my sketching and painting of horses, dogs, cats, birds, and goldfish. Flowers are also very dear to me." – Susan Lovelace

"I've lived in Chicago or the surrounding suburbs my entire life. I've been photographing Chicago for about 50 years, from the time I got my first camera when I was eleven. While Chicago is my favorite subject, I also enjoy photographing nature, travel, and rural (old barns, especially) subjects." – **Bob King**

"Creating art is a joyous, thought provoking act, as an artist I possess many paths to self-expression through media. At present I am using fiber to seek the spiritual through the corridors of healing. I am an art therapist and as such I believe in the creative process to enhance growth and enrich life." – Diana Nawrocki

"My creative journey began as a child watching my artist father create magic with oil paint; it continued at the School of the Art Institute where I grew in inventiveness and technique." – **Therese Mildice**

"The rhythm of the water...The movement of the wind...Every moment creates a different response and mood...and a new challenge to be met. – **Maureen Mckee**

Are you sharing your artwork and your artistic inspirations on the World Wide Web?

Contact webmaster@westsuburbanartistsguild.org and take advantage of WSAG's opportunity to promote your artwork and to inspire others with your creativity!

Tips & Techniques

Barbara Lipkin, Pastel Artist and guest speaker at our **September WSAG Meeting**, recommended a variety of papers to use with the pastel medium. Among them; sanded pastel papers, pastel board, cold press watercolor paper. Any rough surface that provides "tooth" for the pastel to adhere would work. Gesso covered paper or canvas absorbs pastel very well. Be sure and use acid-free papers and framing materials to preserve your work. You can "fix" your pastels with acrylic sprays – but be gentle and use many thin layers! www.pastelsocietyofamerica.org has wonderful resources for pastel artists. www.dickblick.com has many choices of materials to choose from and great prices online to economically supply your studio!