



The Ohio Plein Air Society Newsletter

Spring 2008, Volume 6, Issue 1

Annual OPAS Museum paintouts are a big hit

Just a note to say that I had an unbelievable experience at the Toledo Museum. I was very uncertain about going, but am just soooo glad that I did. What a hoot! I also feel that I got a great boost to my confidence by tackling the challenge, and believe it or not, painting with people watching me. A big thank you to everyone who helped put this together.

—Jim Marsh

I went to both the Springfield and the Columbus paint-ins and had an awesome time at both. Having the opportunity to copy from the masters is more than I had hoped for! I didn't even know a person would be allowed to do what we did. Painting in the dim light of the gallery was a challenge, but I heard someone behind me say that as long as you know the values of your colors and how they relate to each other, it should work. That's wonderful advice that I will try to keep in my mind in the future.

You've hit upon a winning structure for these and I'll look forward to doing them again next January. I have met so many wonderful people in the few short months I've been participating, and have been impressed with how open everyone is about their techniques and with offering kind encouragement. I've certainly gotten my dues-worth!!

—Alice Seyfried

"I didn't even know a person would be allowed to do what we did."



I was at Dayton. Not only was this my first attempt at doing this but I hadn't slept in more than 28 hours. It was a wonderful experience and I can't wait to try it again.

—Ruth Ann Sturgil

Cincinnati had a great turnout of artists from all around, including some IPAPA members from Indiana. At the end some of us met in the grand round hall to share our paintings.

Especially nice was Nancy Augberger's painting of the nighttime snow scene of Mt. Adams. I struggled with Duvanek's Whistling Boy – his grand strokes of genius. and Ray Hassard chose an all light value painting to challenge his use of the "quiet" pastels. Tom Powers did a lovely flock of sheep by Anton Mauve. Mary Ann Davis suggested that each of us ID the artist copied, share just what drew each of us to the original and tell what goal was paramount in the copying process. This worked beautifully. The Cincinnati Art Museum was very welcoming and constantly busy with visitors. All in all, again a wonderful day!

—Martha Carmody



Springfield: Arrived at the Museum before 9am and two long distant travelers were sleeping in their cars. Fred Baughman from Indianapolis and Gary Chaconas from Newark. By 10am there was eight of us hard at work. Charlotte Gordon our curator showed up to see if all was going well and to say hi to OPAS. The museum photographer also took photos to put on the museums web-site.

—Paul Reif



From left Paul Reif, Robert Davitian, Alice Seyfried, Fred Baughman, Diana Hoke, Linnae Wilson, Gary Chaconas and Edy Martin in Springfield

Coming OPAS Paint-outs and Events

February 23, 2008—Urban Blight!

Franklin County

Address : 243 N. Fifth Street, Suite 420, Columbus, Ohio 43215; Phone : 614.221.8988

Host : Jon Browning; jbrowning@browninglaw.us

Ever painted the city? Well here's your chance. You can paint outside, anywhere you like in the cold of Columbus, or you can come inside to Jon's 4th floor windows and paint the views to the North, East and South from there. If you DO choose to paint outdoors in the cold, you can come up to the office and warm up. The cafe on the first floor will also be open 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

March 15, 2008—Cleveland South Chagrin Metroparks and Vicinity

County: Cuyahoga

Meet at Look About Lodge, 37850 Miles Road, Chagrin Falls OH 44022

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00pm (regroup at the Lodge for critiques and hot chocolate!)

Host: Diane Farr: dianefarr@att.net, phone (440) 247-9430, cell (440) 463-1866

Websites for more area info: www.CleMetParks.com, www.chagrin-falls.org, www.HuntingValley.net, www.GatesMillsVillage.com

There are many great places to paint—

the MetroParks itself has numerous trails, gorges, fields and riverviews;

the New England style town of Chagrin is a mile or so down the road (with great places to paint and to catch lunch);

and Chagrin River Road winds along the Chagrin River (designated as a "Scenic Waterway" by the State of Ohio) past the open fields and horse pastures of Hunting Valley to the charming town of Gates Mills. If we're lucky, we'll have beautiful white snow and blue skies to paint!

March 29, 2008—Annual Meeting, Columbus Area

Franklin County

Loy Hall Studio, Capital University

College and Main, Columbus, OH 43209-2394

Loy Hall Studio doors open at 8 AM

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM : Coffee & Donuts

9:00 AM: Business Meeting with OPAS Officer Election Results; Update on Zanesville Art Center Exhibition

11 AM: Keynote Speaker, Charles Shepard—*What Museums Don't Want Artists to Know*

Charles Shepard, Executive Director of the Ft. Wayne Museum of Art will give a Career Development Lecture followed by individual critiques of members work. There are a limited number of critiques and these will be offered on a first come first, first served basis. If you are interested in this opportunity, please email debra@ohiopleinairsociety.com , or call 740-927-3078, to schedule a time and to receive instructions for your critique.

April 26, 2008—April in Athens

County : Athens

Hosts : Gayla Parks and Jeff Risner

Schedule : 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM : Paint, Paint, and Paint

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM : 2 to 3 display and critique in Athens Recreation Center (not yet confirmed)

Theme of this paintout is "The beautiful hills that surround the City of Athens and the Hocking River Valley"

Jeff is meeting with locals to get a place to have the critique and center of operations and public viewing of the artists production. He has to meet with the art council and the councilman on the arts committee for Athens City and is trying to get a video production of the days events also. Jeff reports, "Several other groups are interested in what OPAS does. Our local environmental group wants to see how we interpret the views and said they will help out in anyway they can. I have been approached by school art teachers who may be interested in getting some students outdoors and painting."

May 19, 2007—Pine Tree Barn

Wooster, OH

County : Wayne

Address : 4374 Shreve Road, Wooster, OH; Phone : 330.264.1014; Website : www.pinetreebarn.com/

Contact : rita@pinetreebarn.com

Host : Cinda Motter

Critique : Dino Massaroni

Thanks for Cinda Motter for planning this paintout for the third year.

Please RSVP to Cinda at ckmotter@zoominternet.net so Pine Tree Barn can have the coffee and muffins ready!

**Coming in June, Mark Gingerich hosts at Beaver Creek State Park,
and don't forget September 19-21: the OPAS competition at New Philadelphia.**

From the President

On March 29, OPAS will conduct its annual meeting. Again, Michael McEwen and Capital University will be our hosts. The day will kick off at 8:30 with coffee and donuts and some idle chit-chat. Following the chit-chat will be the business meeting for the group, including the treasurer's report (we have some money), some talk about upcoming exhibitions, and elections results. After this business meeting we will get to enjoy listening to our speaker—Charles Shepard, of the Ft. Wayne Museum of Art. I'd like to talk briefly about the business meeting.

First, the coffee-and-donut part will be great. It's always good to see friends from across the state, catch up on news of winter paintings, travels, family, and so much more. I love this part of the meeting, and I do like donuts. A lot.

Second, we have some money in the treasury, and this year we hope to start spending some of it in creative ways. I don't know what those ways are yet, and frankly it's not my decision. It's up to the members and the board. So we'd like to hear your ideas. I can't say what my preferences will be, but I will advocate spending it in prudent ways that further the arts, further the group's goals, and that allow us to replenish the treasury each year. I would love to hear what ideas each of you might have.

Third, Elections. Huh. I'm not sure what to say here. It seems that we don't have anyone that wants to run! At last check, we have received no nominations, and hence have no ballots to mail out. If however, I am wrong about this, and if you have mailed something in and we haven't received it, let me know immediately. Frankly, if no one runs, the board will decide how to fill those spots. Or at least that's my best guess. While this is not the ideal situation, the program for next year is already in place, we continue to line up new activities and events, and I will continue to serve OPAS in any capacity that the board sees fit for me. If you would like to help out next year, please let me know.

Which brings me to the events for next year. John Daniels and I are particularly excited about an exhibition that John is pulling together at the Zanesville Art Center for the end of 2008 and early 2009. He will be getting out some information on this exhibition at the annual meeting I suspect. The Zanesville Art Center is a beautiful museum, and they are treating us very well through the planning stages. We look to repeat the success that we enjoyed at the Springfield Museum last fall. And this brings me to even more good news Paul Reif tells me that we've been invited back to Springfield. Wow, I can't tell you how proud we should all be for this kind invitation. To be invited back to a museum tells me that the group, and each of its members, is finding its painting legs, so to speak. As a group, we're learning to walk, and soon we'll be off and galloping.

And that brings me to my final thoughts. Each organization has growing pains. OPAS has had a few, itself. But the organization is still a young one, and no one in the group has much experience in running a non-profit, and certainly not one that is doing as successfully as OPAS has over the past five years. We're getting better at doing this, and 2008 is going to be a spectacular year for us.

Thanks for letting me serve.

– Jon Browning

Member News

MARY ANN SEDIVY will be involved in a couple of shows in Northeast Ohio.

The first is a show at Lakeland Community College called *From Woman ...Celebrate Women's History Month, Created by Women, of Women and About Women*. This exhibition will run from March 7th through March 31st. Opening reception: March 7th, 7-9 pm. She will have 6-8 pieces in this show.

Second is a show in April at BayArts in Bay Village Ohio, titled *Inhale, Exhale*, . Opening reception: April 11, 7-9. She will have 10-12 works in this three person show.

ANASTASIA HOROWITZ will present a Solo Exhibit of her work at The Lyle Gallery, 615 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Opening Reception for this Exhibit is March 8, 2008 at 6:15 P.M.

OPAS members **RAY HASSARD** (Top 100) and **SUSAN ASTLE-FORD** (Top 200) had works accepted into the national PaintAmerica 2007. Ray won the Directors Award in the Mini50 which kicks off it's tour at the Westboro Fine Arts Gallery in Topeka Kansas 2-15-2008.

Charter Member **EUNICE BRONKAR** had 3 paintings juried into the Annual Retired Teachers Show in Columbus. The show will run from 1/07/08 thru 2/23/08 at the State Teachers Retirement Center, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio.

ELLIE MILLER won "Best of Show" in the December show at the Toledo Artists Club. The painting was executed at an OPAS paintout last summer. I had such a good time doing it that day, it seemed to be poetic justice!

DEBRA JOYCE DAWSON was awarded BEST OF SHOW and PURCHASE AWARD at *The Collage of Women Artists* juried exhibition in Columbus. The purchase award went to Debra's quick draw painting from the 2007 OPAS competition.

RICK DZIAK had a painting published on the front page of the Toledo Blade on Christmas Day 2007. Way to go Rick!

KAREN LaVALLEY is exhibiting with her son and daughter in Columbus, OH. Bill Mayr wrote about this unique exhibition "Inherit, Inherent" in his Thursday, January 3rd column of the Columbus Dispatch.

Treasurer's Report

Feb	17407.99
Mar	17055.07
Apr	17602.73
May	17602.73
June	17380.82
July	17989.84
August	17980.15
September	15795.50
October	16561.43
November	16561.43
December	15410.35

Pataskala, OH 43062-0342
PO BOX 342



Contact Information

OPAS Newsletter Production

Ray Hassard
ray@rayhassard.com

Paint Out Co-Chairs

Mary Dziak, dziak@cros.net
Susi Havens-Bezaire, shbezaire@aol.com

Website

Debra Joyce Dawson
debra@ohiopeopleinairsociety.com

2007-08 OPAS Officers

Jon Browning, President
jbrowning@browninglaw.us

John Daniels, Vice President
jdaniels@iwaynet.net

Elaine Freeman, Secretary
elaineart@insight.rr.com

Edie Dean, Acting Treasurer
pdfgrp@earthlink.net

OPAS Board of Trustees

Debra Joyce Dawson, Chair
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2008 Newsletter deadlines

Please send any information for the newsletter by the following dates. Anything coming in after these dates may not be printed in the newsletter. Information should be sent to ray@rayhassard.com.

Spring Newsletter: February 1, 2008

Summer: April 1, 2008

Fall: August 1, 2008

Winter: December 1, 2008