



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

Brushstrokes

2012 Western Regional First-Class All the Way

Always an OPA favorite, Lee Youngman Galleries in Calistoga, California hosted the 2011 Western Regional Exhibition October 8 – October 30, 2011. Gallery owner Lee Youngman did a first-rate job displaying the exhibition and coordinating all of the events over this magnificent fall weekend.

Members thoroughly enjoyed the fabulous painting demonstrations given by 3 of OPA's elite painters: Juror of Awards and Master Signature artist Peter Adams, Master Signature artist Joyce Pike, and Signature member Meadow Gist.

On Friday evening, the Lee Youngman Galleries hosted a fabulous gourmet dinner at Cuivason Winery. Nestled among acres of fragrant vineyards, this exceptional dinner setting offered guests a unique and memorable experience. Artists and collectors were greeted with fine wine and hors d'oeuvres, followed by a scrumptious candlelit dinner in the Barrel Room.

On Saturday morning, another top OPA artist, Signature member Paul Youngman, took members out to some of Calistoga's most picturesque locations for a full day of painting the vistas and vineyards that have made Napa Valley world-famous.



Albin Veselka OPA won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature division for "Flower Crown"

Saturday evening marked the opening of the Western Exhibition and this year's Juror of Awards, Peter Adams OPAM, had his work cut out for him. Every year, acceptance into this show has become more and more difficult due to the number of high caliber entries. Congratulations to Gold Medal winner Albin Veselka OPA whose painting "Flower Crown" won him top honors in the Associate/Signature Division and a check for \$4,000. Always a top contender, David Hettinger OPAM took home the Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division and a check for \$3,500.

Special thanks to Lee and Paul Youngman for making this an extraordinary weekend for everyone! Despite the slow economic recovery, sales were steady throughout the month resulting in one of OPA's best regional shows. Much of the exhibitions success can be attributed to Lee Youngman and the loyal customer base that she has developed throughout the years.

Congratulations to all of the Western Regional participants and artists who came out for this event. Below is a complete list of the award winners.

Gold Medal: Albin Veselka OPA for "Flower Crown" - \$4,000 funded by OPA

CONTENTS

Western Regional Show	1
Meet the Winners	3
Dear Dabby	9
Notes From Your Board	9
Painting Our Future	11
Dates to Remember	12

Western Regional show con't.

Silver Medal: David Gray for "Hannah" - \$1,000 funded by OPA

Bronze Medal: Sharon Calahan for "June Pasture" - \$1,000 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Whitney Hall for "Good Clean Sun" - award valued at \$3,100 funded by *American Art Collector Magazine*

Award of Excellence: Carolyn Lindsey for "Summer Garden" - award valued at \$1,780 funded by *Art of the West Magazine*



"Straw Baby" by Daria Shachmut won an Award of Excellence

Award of Excellence: Jason Dowd for "Silent Lions, The Fox Theatre" - award valued at \$725 funded by *American Art Review*

Award of Excellence: Daria Shachmut for "Straw Baby" - award valued at \$500 funded by Pacific Northwest Art School in Coupeville, Washington

Award of Excellence: Michelle Waldele-Dick for "Tools from the Shed" - \$500 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Jennifer A. McChristian for "The Transfer" - \$500 funded by OPA



Whitney Hall's painting "Good Clean Sun" won an Award of Excellence

Award of Excellence: Tim Perkins for "Flo Blu on Payless" - \$500 funded by OPA

Award of Excellence: Brian Slawson OPA for "Tropic" - \$500 funded by OPA

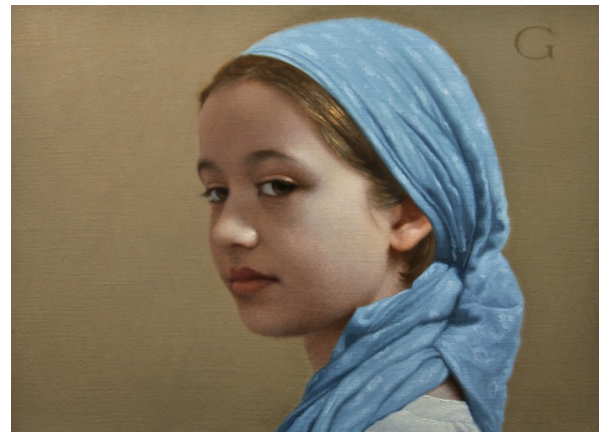
Gold Medal – Master Signature Division: David Hettinger OPAM for "Peonies and Geranium" - \$3,500 funded by OPA.



"Flo Blue on Payless" won an Award of Excellence for Tim Perkins



The Bronze Medal was awarded to Sharon Calahan for "June Pasture"



"Hannah" painted by David Gray won the Silver Medal

**MEET THE ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION
GOLD MEDAL WINNER
ALBIN VESELKA OPA**



Born in 1979, Albin's interest in painting came at an early age. His parents were instrumental in promoting his emerging talent.

In 2006, Albin received his BFA from Brigham Young University Idaho. He credits the knowledgeable and student oriented faculty of the BYUI art department for giving him "the tools all representational artist must have to open up the door to communicating in the visual arts". Direction was also given to Albin which helped him break into the gallery scene while he was a college student. Since then Albin has continued in developing his career receiving honors from several prestigious organizations.

Albin's career has been a continual learning experience. His growth comes naturally as he strives for excellence through education and hard work. He is constantly finding new things to appreciate in the Masters both living and deceased. Some of his influences are Nicolai Fechin, John Singer Sargent, Abram Arkhipov, Ilha Repin, Richard Schmid, Dan Gerhartz, Mike Malm, Carolyn Anderson, Gerald Griffin and Leon Parson.

Albin currently lives in Rexburg, Idaho with his wife Jenee and their three children. He teaches painting classes part-time at BYU Idaho in the art department where his art education commenced. "Teaching is another way I can share the beauty of what I have learned; it fulfills me to be around like minded people in the art world. I feel blessed to continue my education with the faculty and students with whom I work. In this environment I can continually learn and develop as well as refine what I know through teaching."

"If I can enrich the lives of those who view my work in any way, I have accomplished my goal. There is something of the divine that comes through the work of one who has mastered his mode of expression and who has something good to say. Be it simple or profound, intellectual or spiritual when that message comes through and awakens something within the receiver that improves his or her life; that, I believe, is the higher purpose of art. That's what I strive for."



Carolyn Lindsey's painting "Summer Garden" won an Award of Excellence



Jason Dowd won an Award of Excellence for "Silent Lions, The Fox Theater"



An Award of Excellence was given to Jennifer A. McChristian for "The Transfer"



MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE GOLD MEDAL WINNER DAVID HETTINGER OPAM

Forty years of drawing and painting have enabled Hettinger to work up concepts for paintings based on past experiences and life's observations. He often begins a painting without models or references, pulling a scene from a past memory. Models are hired for figurative paintings only after a concept is drawn out on canvas. Hettinger doesn't think of his figurative pieces as portraits or paintings of people but rather of relationships and moments

in time. A child asking a question of an adult can inspire a painting. The idea of a peaceful summer afternoon being interrupted by a child wanting to do something or wanting to go somewhere brings a smile to Hettinger. That smile inspires a painting that will bring Hettinger into a world of possibilities. He ponders the relationship between the child and the adult and the question the adult seems to have trouble answering.

Bringing these concepts to life on a canvas are Hettinger's enjoyable challenges. Working up a design for the painting and working up colors for clothing and background are little puzzles to work out. Textures of subject matter and the painting surface are more challenges he accepts.

Born in 1946 in Aurora, Illinois, Hettinger began drawing around the age of 8. His subjects were T.V. and movie cowboys. At age 13 he was given a set of oil paints by Mike Spencer, a local artist who ran the barber shop across from St. Joe's School where Hettinger was a student. Formal art training began at the American Academy of Art in Chicago under Joseph vanden Brouck. Under Mr. Van, as he was called, Hettinger learned classical realism and the techniques of the Flemish, Dutch and Spanish Masters. After four years at the academy, Hettinger moved to New York City where he studied with David Leffel and Richard Schmid. During his two years in Leffel's studio he painted still-life's and figures, always working from live models. He learned the importance of working from life from Schmid and Leffel and to this day attends life drawing sketch groups twice a week to keep his drawing skills fine tuned.

Since beginning his career as a professional artist he has had 21 one-man shows in galleries across the country. He is a Master Signature member of Oil Painter of America. He has won awards for his landscapes, still-life's, and figurative paintings. His work has been reviewed in *American Artist Magazine* 1993, *The Artist Magazine* 2003 and *International Artist* 2004.



The Gold Medal in the Master Signature division was awarded to David Hettinger OPAM for "Peonies and Geranium"

Every painting for Hettinger is a present experience in which he is reliving a past experience. Even his still-life's hold personal memories for him. His mother was a gardener who loved to save plants from the summer by bringing them into the house over the winter. Window sills were filled with potted plants. Now his paintings are of those potted plants sitting on the window sill with a landscape out the window.



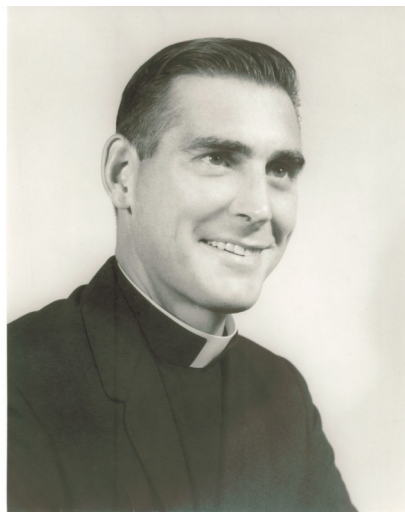
Brian Slawson OPA won an Award of Excellence for his painting "Tropic"



"Tools from the Shed" by Michelle Waldele-Dick won an Award of Excellence

In recent years, members have asked to donate funding for awards to honor the memory of a loved one who was passionate about the arts. Over the next few newsletters, we have asked each of these donors to share with members the meaning and significance of their award.

THE JOHN AUGUST DIETRICH MEMORIAL FIGURATIVE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



personal discoveries and new product ideas for RayMar, the company we launched in 1998.

Born in Detroit in 1930 at the height of the depression, John's creative and entrepreneurial spirit appeared early. At 5 he collected and sold gallon glass jugs for 5 cents to help his family. When he was 13 he became his piano teacher's protégé and she planned to prepare him for the classical concert stage. Instead family and teachers encouraged him to enter Sacred Heart Seminary and become a Maryknoll missionary priest.

To honor my late husband, John, our family created an annual award to be presented at the OPA's national juried exhibition. Inaugurated last year at the 20th anniversary exhibit, the first award recipient was Glenn F. Harrington for his painting, "The Breakfast Table".

When I learned of Glenn's painting I smiled as the title brought back some of my fondest memories of John. Early each morning we wrote in our journals and at the breakfast table talked about

Ordained at 27, his background of philosophy, psychology and theology prepared him for life's challenges. Without funding he created a town in the Amazon rain forest where the indigenous people processed rubber, exported Brazil nuts to New York and London and formed a community corporation. To speed up production John invented a nut processing machine. The American broadcast journalist Edward R. Murrow visited John's Blanca Flor project in

Bolivia and did a special report on the "jungle priest" who changed the socio economic climate of the region.

John's philosophy was "if you can think it, you can do it". In 1966 Pope Paul VI granted John's dispensation to follow his dream to become an entrepreneur. John A. Dietrich & Associates blended his experience and sense of humor to teach project management seminars to the top 500 corporations. Later with XPM, Inc. employing a NASA prototype, he directed programmers to develop software for scheduled maintenance on the FedEx and Continental airline fleets. RayMar was John's third business and my daughter Emily and I have been inspired to carry on his entrepreneurial legacy and provide professional painting panels for artists.

So in the spirit of John's desire to make a difference, I applaud every OPA member who takes creative risks. One of you will be our next award recipient.

Cathy Dietrich

WESTERN REGIONAL SHOW CANDID PHOTOS



Dinner, sponsored by Lee Youngman Gallery, was in the Barrel Room of the Cuivason Winery and was a treat for all



The scenery and weather in Calistoga could not have been better for plein air painters



Master Signature member Joyce Pike presented an interesting and informative demonstration of her style

21st NATIONAL EXHIBITION HEADS TO EVERGREEN, COLORADO

Come join us in Evergreen, Colorado for our 21st National Juried Exhibition and Annual Meeting from Wednesday, June 20 to Sunday, June 24, 2012. We are very excited to have Evergreen Fine Art Gallery host this year's exhibition and look forward to visiting this beautiful part of the country. Take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about the business side of art, as well as immerse yourself in painting with fellow OPA members from across the country.



Highlights of this amazing week include painting demonstrations that you will not want to miss! The line-up includes this year's Juror of Awards, renowned Master Signature artist Quang Ho painting on Friday morning, followed by this year's Distinguished Artist Daniel E. Greene OPAM on Saturday morning. Also joining this illustrious group is Edward D. Kucera who was recently named a Master Signature member of OPA. He will paint on Sunday afternoon, along with Signature art-



Beautiful scenery abounds for the Wednesday plein air paint out sponsored by *Southwest Art Magazine*

ist Johanna Harmon. Ms. Harmon is the recipient of the Gold Medal at the 2007 National Juried Exhibition in Fredericksburg, Texas.

OPA kicks off the week on Wednesday, June 20, with a plein air paint out sponsored by *Southwest Art Magazine*. OPA members are invited to *SW Art* sales representative Kimberly Moore's cabin for a full day of painting and pampering. Be sure to arrive early to capture the beautiful sunrise as it peaks over the mountain tops. Enjoy a light breakfast and lunch, wrapping up with an early evening wine reception.

Thursday marks another day of plein air painting as OPA members David Mayer and David Santillanes take members out to some of the best spots in the Evergreen area. Later, meet other attendees at OPA's welcome reception followed by a very moving presentation that you will not want to miss by Signature member Konrad Hack outlining his unique experience as a military artist.

On Friday afternoon, OPA is honored to have Distinguished Artist Daniel E. Greene OPAM discuss his long and illustrious career with *Art of the West Magazine's* publisher Allan Duerr. Don't miss this rare oppor-

tunity to hear from one of our nation's most notable artists.

Friday evening's opening reception and awards presentation marks the celebration of this year's exhibition and the beautiful works of art that this year's participants have on display. It's an exciting evening for everyone as this year's Gold Medal winner will be announced.

On Saturday, join artist and author Lori Woodward as she shares real-life examples of artists who are designing new paths to making a living since the economic downturn. Ms. Woodward has done extensive market research in this area and will share her insights with you.

Immediately following, learn the do's and don'ts when photographing or scanning your images with *Canadian Brushstroke Magazine* publisher Susan Abma, and Jerry Goroski, prepress manager for Advanced Litho Printing whose clients include Coeur d'Alene Art Auction at Reno, NV; Trailside Galleries and Settlers West Galleries, among others.

Sunday features an important presentation on the current market for representational painting with Joshua Rose, Editor of *American Art Collector Magazine*. His talk will focus on new and upcoming art markets across the country, the state of the art market today, what's happening in galleries coast to coast, the current art market's fascination with art fairs and auctions, and new galleries and artists emerging in the representational art world.

21st National Exhibition can't.

Take advantage of the many opportunities to socialize and network with fellow artists during Saturday evening's soiree at "The Fort." For the 3rd year in a row, *American Art Collector* has played a major sponsorship role at OPA's National Exhibition and this year is no exception. Members and guests are invited to join the staff of *American Art Collector Magazine* at the "The Fort," a Colorado institution modeled after an adobe fort from the 1800's.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be an amazing week in Evergreen! We know you will leave inspired, energized and motivated to reach your own personal goals in 2012.



Daniel E. Greene OPAM will be interviewed as this year's Distinguished Artist



Jeff Merrill won the First Place award for Associate members in the fall On-line Showcase for "Enferma"



The First Place award For Signature members in the fall On-Line Showcase went to Hodges Soileau OPA for "The Basket Weaver"



2011 ON-LINE SHOWCASE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Thanks to Mrs. Dorothy Mellin and the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, OPA was able to hold its second on-line showcase for Associate and Signature members last fall.

Congratulations to Associate Showcase first place winner Jeff Merrill for his award winning painting, "Enferma" and to Signature Showcase first place winner Hodges Soileau OPA for his award winning painting "The Basket Weaver." Both artists walked away with \$3,000 for their winning paintings. The Juror of Awards was Signature member Dan Beck, 2011 Gold Medal winner at our 20th National Juried Exhibition in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

A complete list of the winners follows:

Associate Showcase Winners

First Place: Jeff Merrill for "Enferma"

Second Place: Paul Cheng for "Shades of Late Summer"

Third Place: Liana Bennett for "What I Am"

Honorable Mentions: Aaron Allen Westerberg for "Self Portrait"; Jennifer McChristian for "Vagabonds at Rest"; Kelly Mellos for "Searching, Self Portrait"; Xiao Jiang for "Brown's Memory"; Derrick Penix for "Antique Market in France"; Linda Nelson for "Wassily Chair"; Gerald Ruggiero for "Art Appreciation"; Kathy Montgomery for "Camera: State of the Art"; Anne Blair Brown for "Five O'Clock Somewhere"; Robert Spooner for "Farm in Greys."

Signature Showcase Winners

First Place: Hodges Soileau OPA for "The Basket Weaver"

Second Place: Greg Scheibel OPA for "Jefferson River"

Third Place: Johanna Harmon OPA for "Noelle"

Honorable Mentions: William Schneider OPA for "Nude on Red"; W. Jason Situ OPA for "Windy Morning"; Wanda Choate OPA for "Winter Lessons"; Tom Bluemlein OPA for "Morning Mist"; and Nancy Howe OPA for "The Dance Within."

MEET ON-LINE SHOWCASE SIGNATURE WINNER HODGES SOILEAU OPA



Hodges had a successful illustration career which lasted twenty five years. His art graced the covers of more than three hundred book covers. He worked for most of the major publishing houses in New York. Hodges was a twenty three year member of the prestigious Society of Illustrators in New York. During this time, he received many citations of merit for work exhibited in annual shows. He was selected to do the painting for the twenty ninth call for entries and chaired the thirty fifth annual exhibition.

After years of executing ideas and concepts of others, he now paints subjects that are of personal interest.

His works hang in private collections as well as the United States Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard permanent collections. The permanent collection of Golf Digest Magazine includes several of his paintings.

Artist Statement: As an artist, I believe in practicing the sound principals of painting that I have learned and currently teach, but I also believe that an artist should strive

for something more than just the technical skill in their work. There is a feeling, or reaction, that one gets when standing in front of a painting or a piece of art. Sometimes, it is not an easy thing to describe. It might be the sense of place in a landscape, the light on the subject, or a fleeting expression in a portrait. These are the types of reactions that one hopes are communicated in his or her paintings. The best scenario is when the technical and the emotional parts of painting are inseparable.

MEET ON-LINE SHOWCASE ASSOCIATE WINNER JEFFREY MERRILL

Jeff Merrill is an Idaho native. He earned a B.F.A. in illustration from Brigham Young University. After working as an illustrator for more than a decade his focus has turned to fine art. He has an M.F.A. in figure painting from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, and currently teaches painting and drawing as Assistant Professor at BYU-Hawaii.

His motivation for painting stems from an interest between the abstract qualities of paint and the representational subjects he portrays. Focus is placed on balancing disparate technical elements such as thick and thin, transparent and opaque and texture versus no texture. Each painting is an opportunity to explore new ways of reconciling opposites, both visually and conceptually.

Jeff is an associate member of the Oil Painters of America. In 2008, he received the *Thanhardt-Burger Corp. Award of Excellence* at the OPA National Juried Exhibition and has since been accepted into other national (2009, 2011) and regional 2010 shows sponsored by Oil Painters of America. He currently resides in Laie, Hawaii,



CRITIQUES AVAILABLE

Don't forget that OPA offers a critique service for both members and non-members. This service is made available by the generous donation of time and expertise from OPA's Signature and Master Signature members.

To have your work critiqued, mail OPA 2 identical discs containing 3-10 images of your most current work, a brief one-page bio and a \$25 check payable to OPA. The cost for non-members is \$50. One disc is sent to the critiquing artist for review and the other will be kept on file. The volunteer critiquer will review your work and provide you with constructive criticism and feedback. Please allow four to six weeks to receive a response.



Teresa Cowley is a member of the Oil Painters of America. She draws inspiration for her work from the different places she has lived, most importantly, though, from the lives and stories of the people she has had the privilege of knowing. For her, that makes the possibilities limitless as she seeks to bring to the canvas those special moments and narratives. She considers art to be a reflection of how we see and live life. Teresa hopes her work and writings can encourage your heart, lift your spirit, or tickle your fancy! Feel free to contact her at: info@teresacowley.com.

Dear Dabby,

What is your advice on getting into important art competitions?

Thanks...

Still Tryin' to Jury in...

Dear Tryin',

Unfortunately, the i-Jury app for artists has not yet hit the stores! Insider information indicates confusion and debate among developers. If it was available, it might have some of these inexplicable components...

1. GPS that includes art-related Points-of-Interest (such as the location of every painting Aunt Daffy did)
2. Calendar with important regional and national shows listed (Kindergarten/Elementary contests can be toggled)

3. Contact list of judges with images of all the paintings they have not picked -- sortable by the artist's last name. Browse at your own risk. Last year's entry might be there.

Here are a few thoughts.

1. Don't paint to ring the judge's bell. Ring your own bell!
2. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. After 20 declines, ummm....
3. Reading the judge's bio won't tell you what to paint.
4. Getting your name out there is important, but you might consider reducing the size of the 8" high ornamented signature!
5. Ask that painfully honest artist with whom you disagree on nearly everything how to improve your work. Be silent! ...be very silent and have your pen ready!

6. Don't decide what to enter based on the number of Facebook "like's".
7. Have you wondered how much attention the judge gives your work after considering the other 14,999?
8. If your spam folder is full of rejection slips, you might have a problem.
9. Don't bother mailing cupcakes to the judge.
10. What one judge doesn't like, another one will love!

Dear Tryin', no matter, shoot for the stars! Follow your heart, remain teachable, and show up to paint. Your only real competition is yourself.

Love,
Dabby (still tryin', myself)

© Teresa Cowley

NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OPA'S NEW SIGNATURE AND MASTER SIGNATURE MEMBERS

OPA has recently bestowed its highest status – Master Signature member – to D. Edward Kucera of Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Mr. Kucera joins a select group of artists who have consistently demonstrated exceptional merit and accomplishment in representational oil painting. The Master Signature

Advisory Committee, comprised of five Master Signature members, is charged with reviewing candidates' applications for this status.

Ten talented artists join the ranks of Signature Membership status. Signature membership may be conferred to an artist of exceptional merit who is a member in good standing and who has exhibited in at least three OPA National Shows or in two OPA National Shows and three regional

shows. (Regional shows must be within the last 5 years) The Signature Member Advisory Committee, comprised of five Master Signature and Signature members, is charged with reviewing candidates' applications for this status. Congratulations to the following new Signature members: Kathy Anderson, James Coe, Charles Cox, Fred Doloresco, Barbara Summer Edwards, Bill Farnsworth, Bruce Gherman, Kristine Pallas, Carol Lee Thompson, and Albin Veselka.

Notes from the Board cont'.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to the 2012 winners of the Shirl Smithson Scholarship: Jeffrey A. Love of Tucson, Arizona, Cathy Priest of Wilmette, Illinois, Kathie Wheeler of Viroqua, Wisconsin and Kelli Fulsom of Old Lyme, Connecticut.

Active OPA members and students who are part or full-time students currently enrolled in art school or an art related program are encouraged to apply for one of the 4 scholarships awarded yearly. Applications must be received in the OPA office no later than December 1st for review by the Scholarship Committee. Scholarships are to be used for participation in a workshop such as those offered by the Palette and Chisel in Chicago, Illinois, the Scottsdale Artist's

School in Scottsdale, Arizona and the Fredericksburg Artist's School in Fredericksburg, Texas. For further information and an application please visit the OPA website.

NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

OPA is pleased to announce the addition of Susan Abma to the Board of Directors. Ms. Abma is the publisher of *Canadian Brushstroke Magazine*.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

All OPA members are welcome to attend the Annual Business Meeting being held on Sunday, June 24, during the 2012 National Exhibition in Evergreen, Colorado. This is a good place to meet the Board of Directors as well as an opportunity to participate in the election of the Directors, hear what's planned for the future of

OPA and offer comments and suggestions. This year's slate of candidates for election follows:

Susan Abma (2013)
Kurt Anderson OPA (2014)
Jim Bruce OPA (2014)
William Chambers OPAM (2014)
Konrad Hack OPA (2014)
Marci Oleszkiewicz (2014)

2012 PAINT OUTS

OPA is pleased to be entering its eighth year of sponsoring Paint Outs throughout the United States, Mexico and Canada. This is a great way to meet and network with other artists as well as to find areas that offer painting opportunities that might be new to you. For more information about coordinating a Paint Out please e-mail Karlene at: membership@oilpaintersofamerica.com.

OPA JOINS FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND YOUTUBE

That's right! You can now find OPA on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. For the past year, OPA Board member Marci Oleszkiewicz has been overseeing our Facebook page with the help of OPA webmaster Brian Steck. For those of you who haven't been on Facebook, it is a social networking website that allows users to create and customize their own profiles with photos, videos, and information about themselves. It's a great way to keep in touch and share your paintings and other art related news with friends. As of today, the OPA Facebook page has over 2,912 friends.

One of the latest social media trends is Twitter, which is an online service that allows you to share short messages with each other. OPA plans to use Twitter as tool to communicate important information regarding upcoming exhibitions and important deadlines.

To join Twitter, you must first create your own free account. Once you have done that, you can post your own updates and view the updates others have posted. You can search for people to follow or you can let Twitter select random users.

OPA also has created its own YouTube page so that members can share and view art related videos. YouTube is defined as a video sharing service that allows users to watch videos posted by other users and upload videos of their own. The service was started as an independent website in 2005 and was acquired by Google in 2006. While several companies and organizations like OPA use YouTube to promote their business, the vast majority of YouTube videos are created and uploaded by amateurs.

We invite you to send us your instructional videos or art related videos to share online with other members.

(Please note: The definitions for Facebook, Twitter and YouTube in this article were taken directly from techterms.com)



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@oilpaintamerica

PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Warren Chang OPAM is pleased to announce that he has published a new book entitled "Warren Chang: Narrative Paintings".

Teresa Cowley had one of her portraits, "Angela", accepted into the Connecticut Society of Portrait Artists "Faces of Winter, 2012", exhibit.

Mary Jane Q. Cross announced that at the National Arts Club in NYC "Breath of Heaven" was included in the Allied Artists of America catalog as receiving the Florence and Ernst Thorne Thompson Memorial Award.

Faye Gustafson had her oil, "Break Of Day" juried into the 12th Annual Empire 100 Art Show & Sale in Tucson, Arizona. The show opened in January.

Sheila Hancock is pleased to announce that her painting "The Old Grove" has been chosen for the Women

Painters of the Southeast 2012 show at the Corse Gallery in Jacksonville, Florida. The exhibition starts April 27 and runs through May 26.

Paula Holtzclaw and her studio were featured in *Southwest Art Magazine's* "My World" September, 2011. She was also named one of their "21 over 31" last fall. Paula was recently awarded Signature status with the American Women Artist. She has been invited to exhibit in the "Collectors Reserve" at the Gilcrease Museum this fall in Tulsa Oklahoma, and will be exhibiting with the American Impressionist Society in October, 2011 at Mountainsong Galleries in Carmel-By-The-Sea.

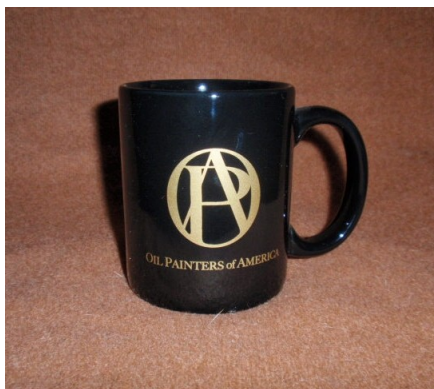
Jean-Baptist Renard is pleased to have been included in the exhibition: State Of the Art/Art Of The State at the Cameron Art Museum in Wilmington, North Carolina. The exhibition

took place from May through October, 2011.

J.M. Steele's "Waiting to Ride" was juried into the Salon International's 2012 Exhibition this spring. Two of Steele's paintings were also accepted into the Mountain Oyster Club's 42nd Annual Art show; and two more were juried into the Empire Ranch "100" 12 Annual Art Show 2012. Additionally, Steele was honored to have her painting "Crimson Twilight" added to the permanent collection at the Coos Art Museum in Coos Bay, Oregon.

Kelly Sullivan was invited by the Bitter End Yacht Club to paint each day at the yacht club for a 3 week period. The yacht club owners asked her to paint so that the guests could watch her document the Bitter End and North Sound while adding to the enjoyment of their resort stay.

NEWEST OPA MERCHANDISE



A 12 ounce, black ironstone mug, with metallic gold OPA logo. Price: \$20.00. Orders from Canada and Mexico, add \$5.00

OPA has recently added two new items to our merchandise that may be purchased on line.

Both the coffee mug and the travel mug/tumbler would be great to use while reading the morning paper, perusing a supplier's catalog for new brushes or painting your next masterpiece.

These items, plus many more, are available from the OPA office. Visit our website to see other items such as tote bags, caps, aprons and shirts.



A 14 ounce, black travel mug, with metallic gold OPA logo. Price: \$23.00. Orders from Canada and Mexico, add \$5.00

IN MEMORIAM

Paula Gold of Kingsland, TX passed away in November 2011. She was a proud member of OPA.

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1 – Deadline for submission for 2012 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarship.

October 15 – Deadline for submission for Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is having been juried into three OPA National Exhibitions or two National Exhibitions and three regional shows. (Regionals must be within the last 5 years.)

September 1 – Deadline for submission for 2012 Master Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Signature status.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

Twenty First Annual National Juried Exhibition at Evergreen Fine Art Gallery, Evergreen, Colorado
June 22 - July 21, 2012 - Painting Size: 1200 sq. inches - Juror of Awards: Quang Ho OPAM

REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS

2012 Eastern Regional – Bennington Center for the Arts - Bennington, Vermont
Sept. 29 - Oct. 28, 2012 –Painting Size: 1200 sq. inches - Juror of Awards: Kenn Backhaus OPAM

2012 Western Regional – Gallery 1261 - Denver, Colorado
Oct 5. - Nov 3, 2012 –Painting Size: 1200 sq. inches - Juror of Awards: Jeff Legg OPAM

ASSOCIATE ON-LINE SHOWCASES

March 1 - May 15, 2012—Juror of Awards: Calvin Liang OPAM
June 1 - August 15, 2012
October 1 - December 10, 2012

SIGNATURE ON-LINE SHOWCASE

June 1 - August 15, 2012

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