

MCMURRAY ART LINES

September 2014

TO PROVIDE
AND
STIMULATE
FOCUS ON THE
ARTS



www.mcmurrayartleague.org

Auguste Rodin
The Burges of Calais-1889

A Note from the President

Summer sure seemed to whiz by faster than ever. What a lush summer! As a grandmother, I was well aware of the soggy baseball fields postponing games at the last minute and causing the grand kids' baseball season to be endless (I thought they would be playing in their Halloween costumes!). Now suddenly September is around the corner with our first general meeting on Thursday, September 11 at 7pm. We are off to a busy start with classes beginning September 3 and Fall Show registration deadline following soon after on September 19. You still have time to dig out your art supplies and prepare for the show (see details in newsletter).

Be sure to check out the class schedule and *sign up ahead of time*. Many instructors are requiring higher class participation which helps to keep our class fees very reasonable. Instructors have to prepare for the class and would like to know if the class is filled *two weeks prior* to class. Now off we go to enjoy this year!

Your president,

Linda Saksa

News and Notes from the League

Clean and Ready for Action

In August I was happy to see members walk in the door with their sleeves rolled up. We had a *mighty* team of six on CUTS day (Cleaning Up The Studio). We steamed and scrubbed the tables, washed walls, vacuumed, spot cleaned the carpet, sanitized and organized the kitchen and bathroom, organized storage and evicted spiders. A HUGE thank you to Sandy Conley, Anne Davis, Ginny Hulst, Jan Pini, and Barb Wettergreen for joining together to make the studio fresher for our members!!! I much appreciated your efforts. The ice man has cometh....and his name is Jim Pini. Thanks to Jim we now have our ice maker working in the refrigerator. Whenever we hear the clunk of the ice cubes dropping, we'll think of Jim.

Please do your part in *keeping* the studio looking great. Clean your table, wall and floor when you are done working. Remember we are now a gallery as well as a studio of which we are proud! *Linda*

Protect the Work You Exhibit

Here are two suggestions to protect your work *particularly in our own studio shows* when you have work in that show and cannot be there to pick it up on the scheduled pick up date:

- 1--- make arrangements for someone to pick up your work on the pick up date.
- 2---(this is a new idea) have an identified box or portfolio with divisions (foam core, cardboard or paper) to store and protect your work. Even wrapping labeled with your name could work. Inform the people in charge that you have provided the carrier and have stored it in the storage room.

It's a busy studio. Neither the kitchen nor working studio is good place to store them. Everyone's works are different in sizes and requirements for protecting their pieces. The artist knows best what they want to do to protect their art. Your art is special to us, as well as to you, and we want to be sure it is protected.

Membership

We want to thank all renewing and new members for their continued interest and support. Currently we have 100 artists involved and that number continues to grow.

The deadline for making it into the 2014/15 membership booklet was August 18th and you will receive a copy of the new issue at the meeting September 11th @ 7PM.

If you missed the deadline for the booklet -no worries- you can still join by registering via the website: mcmurrayartleague.org or filing out a registration form (available online or at the studio) and mailing along with a check for \$28.00 (payable to McMurray Art League) & mail to membership c/o Carol Kilkeary 276 Froebe Rd Venetia PA 15367

Creative Arts for Everyone (CAFE)

Do you have a creative talent or interest outside the classes offered by the league? Perhaps you'd like to share this with a 1 to 3 hour demonstration or workshop for members.

We'd like to experience your special skills AND we get to see what other art supplies we may have neglected to accumulate. CAFES are easy and fun for everybody involved. Contact Carol Kilkeary. 724-941-4855 for help getting started.

Speakers for our General Meetings

September 11—Amy Lindenberger*

October 2---TBD

November 13---Joanne Portnoy

February 12---Theresa Geever

March 5---TBD

April 9---Phiris Kathy Sickels

* *see page 5 for Amy's Bio*

Member News

Renee Keil will be showing and selling her work at the *Deep Creek Art and Wine Festival* at the Garrett County Fairgrounds at Deep Creek Lake on September 6. See www.deepcreekwinefest.com for further information.

Welcome to the Board

Welcome to *Fran Marze* who agreed to serve on the Nomination Committee and *Leslie Fehling* who will serve on the Standards Committee. They will be a great addition to the board.

2014-2015 MAL Classes

Signing up for Classes

Now that summer is almost over, It is time to think about signing up for fall classes and get back into your creative mood. The fall show is looming on the horizon. There are two ways that you can sign up for classes: using our website by viewing "Events" or "Calendar" or by contacting Jean Kunz at 412 831 9992 or at jeankunz@aol.com

Dates	ARTIST	MEDIA	HOURS	MEMBER	NON-MEM
Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24	Sue Levy	Watercolor Painting	10 to 2	\$25	\$30 per day
Sept 9, 16, 23	Christine Swann	Pastel	9:30 to 3:30	\$45	\$50 per day
Oct. 7, 14	Bill Vrscak	Watercolor painting	10 to 4	\$40	\$45 per day
Oct 21,28	Barry Jeter	Oil painting	10 to 4	\$35	\$40 per day
Nov 4, 11	Tom McNickle	Watercolor painting	10 to 4	\$35	\$40 per day
Nov 18, 19,	Jeannie McGuire	Figurative Design WC**	10 to 4	\$45	\$50 per day
Feb 11	Nicole Renee Ryan	Watercolor on Yupo***	10 to 4	\$45	\$50 per day
Feb 18, March 25, Apr 28	Carol Kilkeary	Basic Figure Drawing	10 to 2	\$25	\$30 per day
	Live model fee for April 28,	Fee determined by number of students			
March 10, 17	Tom McNickle	Oil Painting	10 to 4	\$35	\$40 per day
April 14, 21	Barry Jeter	Watercolor Painting	10 to 4	\$40	\$45 per day
April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29,	Sue Levy	Watercolor Painting	10 to 2	\$25	\$30 per day
May 6, 7	Gail Beem	Abstract Pastel	10 to 4	\$30	\$35 per day
Sept 29, Oct 11, Nov 17	Elaine Wertheim	Art Talks*	10 to 11:30	\$10.00	per day

You can find descriptions of the classes on our web site with a materials list.

**Art Talk* topics will cover *Visual Literacy: What makes a Masterpiece?* The Human Element, The Visionary and the Sublime Masterpieces of Risk.

**Jeannie runs national workshops and her class fees are commensurate with her increased demand. In order to meet her present workshop fee she receives, we will have to guarantee 16 students to reach the cost. Registrations must be made by November 1, to determine if we can run the class. No refunds can be given after this date unless a replacement is provided. The class will not be held if the minimum is not met.

***Renee's Workshop fees are usually at a higher rate, but she as agreed to a lower fee so we can offer this unique and different class to our Members

Many of the instructors we have teaching, are now offering classes nationally and can demand higher fees because of the quality of their talent . This causes our class fees to be higher. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to work with such recognized artists.

2014-2015 Thematic Shows Announced

All McMurray Art League members are invited to exhibit their art during any and all of the Thematic Shows at the studio/gallery. Each artist can submit up to 4 pieces of work that express the show's theme in some way. Original art, as well as class work, prints and work previously exhibited in MAL shows can be included in the thematic shows. Artists must let Co-chairs Sandy Conley and/or Michalina Pendzich know they are planning to participate in a show. The first show runs from Thursday, September 25 – November 20, so email Sandy at conley1973@verizon.net or Michalina at mpendzich54@yahoo.com with your titles, size, medium, and price by **September 18**. For convenience, receiving and take down of the previous show will be at the same time. Please note the themes and dates below. Each participating artist will need to sit at the studio once, possibly twice during the show on a Thursday evening from 5 – 8 p.m. We look forward to filling the gallery with your beautiful artwork once again this year.

September 25 – November 20, 2014

Receiving on Sept. 25th, 5 – 8 p.m

"Summer Vacation" – No explanation necessary...can be summers past and present! Any aspect of a summer vacation is welcome.

November 20 – January 29, 2015

Receiving Nov. 20, 5 – 8 p.m.

"Generations" - Interpret this theme as widely as you like - generations of a family, the passage of time or objects from the past. With the holidays just around the corner, holiday related work might fit this theme.

January 29 – March 26, 2015

Receiving January 29, 2015, 5-8p.m.

"Line" – Work in which line is the principal design element. Zentanglers, here's your chance to exhibit some of the inventive work you've been producing.

March 26 – May 28, 2015.

Receiving on March 26, 5 – 8 p.m.

"Celebrate Color" - Let's go wild with color!

Art Talks with Elaine Wertheim

VISUAL LITERACY: WHAT MAKES A MASTERPIECE

We respond subjectively to works of art. Frequently we say, "I don't like it," when we mean, "I don't understand it." To understand what makes a masterpiece we will explore the dynamics that ignite the imagination. This series will help develop visual literacy. Monet, Whistler, El Greco, Rembrandt and Picasso are some of the artists who will challenge and inspire us.

THE HUMAN ELEMENT:

September 29 10:00-11:30

Great art helps us explore the problems and possibilities of being human. This class will feature Rembrandt, Copley, Rodin and other artists intrigued by the human condition.

THE VISIONARY AND THE SUBLIME:

October 27 10:00-11:30

El Greco, Turner, Van Gogh, and O'Keeffe felt free to distort nature in order to express their visionary sensibilities. We will look at artists who reach beyond what we can see.

MASTERPIECES OF RISK:

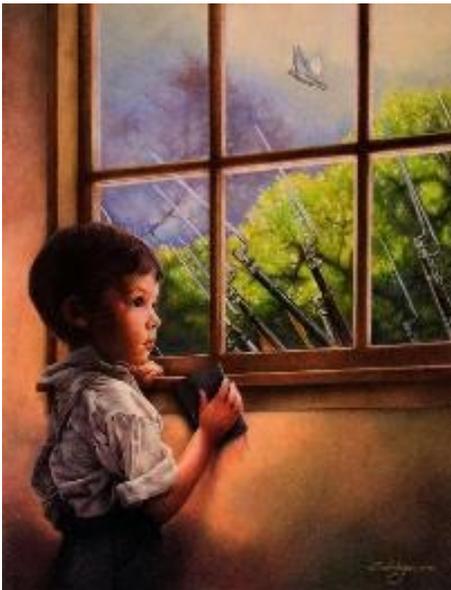
November 17 10:00-11:30

Many artists move artistic expression in a new direction. Artists such as Giotto, Caravaggio, Cezanne and Picasso convince us that we are in the presence of something that is bold and innovative.

* Amy V. Lindemberger

Speaker for September 11

Not long after graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of Akron (OH) with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Drawing, Ohio native **Amy Lindemberger, CPSA** began a 15-year career as a portrait artist, completing over 600 privately commissioned portraits between 1981 and 1996. In 1996 Amy began pursuing her dream by combining her experience in depicting human expression and emotion with her lifelong passion for the Civil War era. The culmination of this effort can be seen in ***Beyond the Battlefield***, a series of large-scale colored pencil images which focus on the war's effect on the citizen-soldier, his wife and children, and society as a whole. In the Spring of 2004, she opened her **Civil War Fine Art Gallery & Studio** in **Gettysburg, PA**, to showcase this body of work. Since 2005, Amy has also been a member of the faculty of the Botanical Art and Illustration Program at the Phipps Conservatory in Pittsburgh, PA, providing instruction in colored pencil techniques for use in botanical art. Her work has been published in four internationally-distributed books: **The Best of Colored Pencil**, **The Best of Colored Pencil II**, **Creative Colored Pencil Portraits**, and **The Best of Colored Pencil IV**.



A Lindemberger *The Age of Innocence*

Peters Twp Library Presents:

The current show at Peters Library (beginning August 21st) is **Autumn Colors** and will run through October 23rd.

The following show will hang October 23rd and run through all the holidays. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years and anything in between. No title yet. Tentative end date is January 15th. That date is subject to change depending on the LenShooters schedule. They should come in with their show in January.

A call for artists email will go out to the membership about the second week of October. Artists may respond to that email with their entries or call 412 833 2374.

For newbies: There is no entry fee. Artists may enter 3 works, unless exceptionally large. A small commission is paid to the library. Further details will be in the October email notice.

1-2-3 Paint!

Have you noticed one of the latest trends? Non-artists have observed what fun we artists have creating art, and they want to do it too! Folks get together at a bar, restaurant or studio and are instructed in the step-by-step process of completing a painting. Often a glass or two of wine are enjoyed while happy new “artists” create their masterpieces.

At our last Board meeting we discussed whether McMurray Art League could offer a similar class to the public. If you are interested in working on this idea, contact Sandy Conley – 724-942-0553 or conley1973@verizon.net.

MAL's Annual Fall Show – ARToberfest!

October 10 - 19, 2014 At the Galleria Mall in Mt. Lebanon (location in the mall still to be determined)

All MAL members are invited to participate in MAL's annual Fall Art Show. You can enter up to 3 hanging pieces of art, sell your greeting cards, matted bin art, and/or, **new this year**, show your three-dimensional art, textile arts, original artisan crafts (no kits), or jewelry. We have reserved one of the mall's glass-encased lockable kiosks for our use during the show. All art must be for sale. We will again take credit cards for the convenience of our customers.

Last fall the first Art Festival was hosted by The Galleria in Mt. Lebanon, which included McMurray Art League and 7 other area art leagues. The momentum for this festival grows each time it happens. The opening reception will be held Saturday, October 11, 7:00 -8:30 p.m. Light finger food will be provided by the mall management. McMurray Art League will serve root beer, ginger beer and pretzels to get us in the ARToberfest mood!

The Galleria is once again sponsoring an art poster contest. There are actually two possible poster contests for you to enter. Instructions for entering the contests are available along with the prospectus. October 2 is the deadline for submission to the Galleria. The theme for the one poster contest is "The Galleria" (of course).

As always, "many hands make light work." We need each participant to volunteer to help with some aspect of the show: screening, show set-up, show take down, or screen transport. Let us know how you are able to help. Each participant will be required to sit at the show up to two times during the show dates. Theresa Bozzo has graciously agreed to make the calls to participating artists to set up the sitting chart. (Thank you, Theresa.)

Please see the prospectus for all the pertinent details. The prospectus and registration forms are available on our website www.mcmurrayartleague.org. or by contacting one of the show chairs for a paper copy. Here are a few dates to keep in mind:

Important Dates	
Registration Postmark Cut-off	Friday, September 19, 2014
Screening Drop-Off	Saturday, September 27, 10:00-11:30 AM
Pick up work from Screening	Sunday, September 28, 1:00-2:00 PM
Galleria Poster Contest submission deadline	Thursday, October 2, 2014
Drop off work (Galleria)	Thursday, October 9, 9:00 PM
Show Setup	Thursday, October 9, 8:00 - 10:00 PM
Reception	Saturday, October 11, 7:00 - 8:30
People's Choice Voting Cut-off	Thursday, October 16, 8:00 PM
Show Takedown	Sunday, October 19, 5:00-6:00 PM

We look forward to seeing your wonderful creations at this show. If you have any questions after reading the Prospectus, please contact one of the co-chairs.

McMurray Art League is now on Facebook!!

In our efforts to help promote our League and our member's art (and hopefully generate sales...) we have created a page on Facebook to reach more viewers in the digital realm. If you already on Facebook, please 'Like' our page and share it with your friends and family!

I have been doing some random posts to get the site launched but really want to focus on our members. In order to do that, I need your help! And by this I mean I need content that only you can provide.

We will be setting up an email where you may send thumbnails and links to images you would like to share to the World Wide Web through our page. If anyone has a tutorial or blog that I can pull from that would be fantastic! (Here's a link to one of my blogs that features daily artwork that you can use as a reference should you decide to create a blog specifically for this purpose: <http://jenbrinkle.blogspot.com/>)

Posting images on the internet is great for exposure but there is also the risk for theft and I want to make sure to protect all of our artwork when posting to our page. For that you will need to do a little bit of formatting of your images. You don't necessarily need Photoshop to do this and there are some free alternatives on the web. Just do a search for 'free photo editing software' and you are set!

Here is a link to an article I found that is useful for basic image guidelines: <http://help.dailypaintworks.com/knowledgebase/article.php?id=28>. Personally I try and keep the size of my images to 800 pixels as a rule but will not exceed 1000 pixels. Here is another link to an article I wrote a few years ago on Artist Identity Theft and touches on watermarks and image size: <http://www.finearts360.com/index.php/beware-of-artist-identity-theft-6854/>

I am hoping to eventually pattern the site to mirror what is going on with the League at the studio. Basically, I want to theme Facebook in tandem with our shows and also highlight member's artwork. Put simply, currently we are gearing up for the fall show and I want to highlight fall themes on Facebook. Once the show starts, I would like to feature artwork that the members have on display as a way to advertise the show and hopefully sell our artwork!

There is a lot to learn for all us here but I think this is a step in the right direction and I hope you all agree! If you have any questions or concerns please ask and I will be happy to answer them as best as possible.

Jen Brinkle, facebook@mcmurrayartleague.org

News Anyone?

We really would like to publish any *news* you might have in our future newsletters about new awards you've received or upcoming shows you may be in. Please email Renee at rakeil@comcast.net with your information.

MCMURRAY ART LINES

The McMurray Art League

Officers & Chairs 2014-2015

President: Linda Saksa
Co-Vice-Presidents: Fred Kunz, Laura Mooney
Recording Secretary: Ginny Hults
Corresponding Secretary: Anne Davis
Treasurer: Jan Pini
By-Laws: Theresa Bozzo, Sandy Conley
Class Coordinator: Theresa Bozzo
Class Registrar: Jean Kunz
Directory: Jan Pini
Exhibit Co-Chairs (Fall): Sandy Conley, Jen Brinkle
Exhibit Co-Chairs (Spring): Carol Aurin, Linda Van Newkirk
Historian: Christy Osiecki
Hospitality: Barbara Wettergreen
Membership: Carol Kilkeary
Newsletter: Renee Keil
Nominations: Theresa Bozzo, Fran Marze
Peters Twp. Library: Shirley Williams
Program: Darla O’Korn Tsapros
Publicity: Judy Ann DiGiacomo
Scholarship: Carol Aurin
Standards: Theresa Bozzo
Studio Exhibits: Sandy Conley, Michalina Pendzich
Studio Window: Darla Duffy
Webmaster: Jan Pini



John Singleton Copley “Head of a Man”

McMurray Art League

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