



WILD ONION

the president's corner

All of us are glad that the bitter cold of this winter is behind us.

For artists, the coming of spring signals not only budding leaves and nesting birds but also the beginning of exhibition season.

I am sure that many of you have been busy painting and now are contemplating what work to submit to the Chicago Pastel Painters 5th Member Juried Exhibition, Strokin'V.

As technology evolves, so does the submission process. In a few short years we have moved from submitting slides, to CDs, to email and now to online submissions. In order to make the submissions easier for the artists, judging easier for the juror and the organizing and keeping track of all the information easier for the organization, we will be using a web-based entry system *ShowSubmit* for our member show.

HOT TIP: If your membership is not up-to-date (renewals come due each January), you may renew the same time you submit your entries online.

I am also very happy to announce that Lauren Peterson has volunteered to take on the vacant board position of Secretary. We look forward to working with her.

There are various activities planned for spring and summer, and I for one am planning to enjoy as many of them as I can!

ONLINE ENTRIES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR CPP'S STROKIN' V MEMBER EXHIBITION.

CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES BY JUNE 15.

-tatijana

Upcoming Events

CPP Strokin' V submissions open online

MAY

5/18 Sunday 9am-12

City plein air Millennium Park

5/31 Pastel-making workshop

with Jessica Fine

JUNE

(TBA) Wilmette Harbor plein air

6/15 Strokin' V submission deadline

JULY

7/25-7/26 Strokin' V painting hand delivery

AUGUST

8/2 Cliff Dwellers Club – paint out and luncheon

8/8 CPP show Strokin' V opening reception and award ceremony

SEPTEMBER

(TBA) Art Institute trip

9/6 Strokin' V show closes

OCTOBER

Chicago Artist Month

(TBA) Weekend workshop with Kathleen Newman

NOVEMBER

11/30 CPP 10th Anniversary Holiday Party & Annual Meeting

Other events in the works



After talking with Winnie Pawliger Gaillen for five minutes, I understood why this charming lady was chosen

for Meet the Member. At 94 "years young," Winnie is still painting, doing calligraphy and loving it!

After high school, in 1938, she began working in a commercial art studio, drawing telephone book illustrations. Winnie decided to attend the now defunct Chicago Academy of Fine Art. Her supportive parents paid her \$26-a-semester tuition—for three classes a week! The \$5 a week she made at her job paid for her carfare and lunches.

In 1940, Winnie and her artist brother opened their own studio on North Michigan Avenue. They did layout, illustration and calligraphy for ad agencies. The two did quite well and they didn't advertise. Around this time, she met her husband, Larry, the love of her life! They were married after he returned from WW II. When their first child was born, Winnie retired to become a homemaker and to raise a family.



Field of Poppies

At the age of 55, after her two children left home, Larry encouraged her to take art classes. She chose to attend The American Academy of Art, which was under the direction of Irving Shapiro, who she admired immensely, as did everyone who knew him. Winnie worked very hard every day for a year. That experience jump started her career as an artist. She started getting commissions for portraits, still lifes and landscapes. She didn't advertise but the commissions kept coming and are still coming today!

Winnie works in oils and pastels. She likes them both for different reasons. She told me that an artist should choose the mediums that make them feel comfortable. The thing she loves about pastels is the feel of the pastel

.....
 "The fun of painting portraits is seeing into the person you are painting."

as it goes onto the paper. Pastels are more forgiving than oils. One thing she doesn't like is the mess. When painting "Field of Poppies," she had "poppy red" all over her condo! The toxicity of some colors is also a big concern for her.

Here's what Winnie said about her own art: "Of course, it's so much more gratifying to paint a picture from the live form...but it is not

always possible, especially if one is commissioned to work from a photograph. I've had to use photos these past few years. Having a



True Love, a portrait of Winnie's granddaughter and her "Pip" won Best of Show in CPP's 2010 Strokin'.

complete knowledge of the human form is such a plus in doing portraiture. That's why I believe in learning the Fundamentals FIRST—anatomy, color, form, values (all the good stuff)! The fun of painting portraits is seeing into the person you are

painting. When clients compliment my paintings and walk away with a smile on their faces, those are my greatest accomplishments as an artist."



Connie in Repose

Meet the Member **WINNIE GAILEN** continued

Winnie's family is most important to her. Sadly, her husband, Larry, died ten years ago, after almost 60 wonderful years of marriage. She told me that Larry was her mentor. He encouraged her to go back to art after the children left home, which she was very glad she did. Larry had a critical eye, which helped her immensely. Having both of her children in the arts today makes Winnie very proud.



A-Sittin' and A-Pickin'

Her son is a graphic designer and her daughter, a set designer. She has two grandchildren, ages 14 and 19, who help to keep her young.

.....
"I am seeing so many
incredibly fantastic works
of art created in pastel."
.....

Winnie taught pastels at the Palette and Chisel for many years. She also monitored many of their Open Studio sessions. Winnie received awards from The Palette and Chisel, The Pastel Society of America, Midwest Pastel Society and is a Signature Member of Pastel Society of America. "Working from the Model in Pastel," an article about Winnie's approach to pastel painting, appeared in the September, 1994 edition of *American Artist*. (It is worth a look!) She is

currently a member of Chicago Pastel Painters, Palette and Chisel Academy of Fine Arts and The Pastel Society of America. Her works appear in the lobby of her condo building and in many private collections.



Meg

"In retrospect, and at this phase of my life," Winnie noted, "I am seeing so many incredibly fantastic works of art created in pastel. It's great that artists have discovered this exciting and soul-satisfying medium!"



Grace Lai



Ariel, completed last December, and reference photo

CPP Visits Master Works at the Art Institute

The description on Léon Augustin Lhermitte's *Women Praying in Church* read "charcoal, with stumping, scraping and erasing," not a technique most of us are accustomed to.

But on Friday, March 7, CPP members met at the Art Institute Print & Drawing Room to broaden our scope of artworks on paper. We viewed figurative pastel paintings and charcoal drawings by nine artists, works not usually displayed by the museum for the general public.



CPP members and guests at the Print & Drawing Room



Evelyn is seldom without her iPad, ready to supplement our lesson in art history

Joan Taxay-Weinger
American, born 1927
Series Roses Study 7



"I picked out 19 items," says Evelyn Brody, CPP member and organizer of the outing, "including the Severini self-portrait that I've struck out on twice before! I think the one difference is we saw two smaller Jim Dines instead of the large one in this list."

Here's the collection of our requested pastels and charcoal drawings:

<http://www.artic.edu/aic/collections/my/cpp-2014-march7/20883>.

Many thanks to Kate Howell of the Department of Prints and Drawings for gathering these precious works and allowing us to view them.

Léon Augustin Lhermitte
French
Women Praying in Church,
1875/1885



Member Announcements

If you would like us to list your classes or workshops, please send the information to

info@chicagopastelpainters.org

Laverne Bohlin is exhibiting at Cantigny Park, Wheaton, Illinois, June 14-15, 2014.

Kathleen Newman is teaching *Adventures in Color Using Soft Pastel June 19-21 in Wethersfield, CT.* For further information, visit www.kathleennewman.com or call 708-822-0063.

Randie LeVan will teach Illuminating the Pastel Landscape Workshop at the *LaGrange Art League* September 6 and 7, 2014

Dotty Carringi, Tatijana Jacenkiw and **Arlene Tarpey** were juried into the Women's Works Show in Woodstock, Illinois.

Ted Fuka, Tatijana Jacenkiw, Mike Kolasinski, Eve Miller and **Bill Schneider** have work in the Pastel National 2014 in Wichita, Kansas.

Laverne Bohlin teaches beginner pastel classes in April and September www.cantigny.org

and a one-day workshop at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois, May 9 and 10, 2014 www.mortonarb.org

She will hold a 3-day workshop on Underpainting Techniques at Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek, Wisconsin, June 30, July 1-2, 2014 info@PeninsulaSchoolofArt.com

LAUREN PETERSON, NEW BOARD MEMBER

Thanks, Lauren, for stepping up to fill the vacant CPP Secretary position!

NEW EXHIBITION COMMITTEE MEMBER

Thank you, Carol Keane, for volunteering to help share the burden with our Exhibitions Chair, Mike Kolasinski.

Lauren and Carol, your knowledge and enthusiasm are a welcome addition to our dedicated and talented staff.

Check out our Facebook page and leave a comment!



Are you on Facebook?

We would like to increase the usage of Facebook to keep members and followers updated about current events, generate discussions, ask opinions, and share interesting art-related information. If you have not joined the new CPP Facebook page, please go to: <https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoPastelPainters> and get in on the latest news from CPP!

by CPP Secretary, Lauren Peterson

Welcome New Members

The following have recently become CPP members:

Peggy S. Drury, Barrington Hills, IL
Julia Komsky, Lake Bluff, IL
Kevin Nordbrock, Woodstock, IL
Marikay Peter Witlock, Chicago Hts., IL

Deadlines for Submitting Information to Wild Onion

July 1
October 1
January 1
April 1

We are eager to hear about any shows, awards, special honors or events regarding CPP members. Please send your submissions to:

Dotty Carringi, Wild Onion Editor
dotdesigns@comcast.net

AND
info@chicagopastelpainters.org

AND
please post it on the CPP Facebook page

The next deadline is July 1 for our Summer issue.

Want to get your art online but don't know how?

Let CPP create your web page for you and showcase your talent to the world.



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PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Jessica Fine
773-991-2258
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Submit to **STROKIN' V**, our fifth
biennial member juried exhibition

August 6 to September 6, 2014

Opening reception and award ceremony
Friday, August 8, 2014 from 6pm to 9pm

UNION STREET GALLERY

1527 OTTO BOULEVARD, CHICAGO HEIGHTS, IL 60411

WWW.UNIONSTREETGALLERY.ORG

- Submissions open from April 1 to **Midnight CDT on June 15, 2014**
- Jury notification the week of June 30, 2014
- You may submit up to 3 digital images
- \$35 entry fee for members
- Submit online to: www.ChicagoPastelPainters.org. Click on "Exhibitions"
- All work must be for sale
- Union Street Gallery will receive a 30% donation; CPP a 10% commission on all sales

For framing, delivery and other information, see our full prospectus or contact Mike Barret Kolasinski at mbkolasinski@earthlink.net

Chicago Pastel Painters Turns 10 Years Old

Pastel has come a long way in ten years; it's more respected as a serious medium, more materials and equipment are available and membership in pastel societies has risen steadily. CPP and its founding members have played a huge role in elevating pastel with its exhibitions, workshops and other events.

Here's a tidbit of what Jessica Fine, our first illustrious president, wrote in the first issue of Wild Onion, Volume 1, Number 1, June, 2004:

Greeting to everyone! I am pleased to be writing our first official newsletter. As you may know, there has been concern that the Chicago art community has not taken pastel painting with the seriousness it deserves. One of our missions is to promote awareness and appreciation of the pastel medium.

Some Chicago artists came together to create a new pastel group from remnants of the Midwest Pastel Society. Many of you were members of that organization and we beg your indulgence. Since 1998 there had been no activity and we felt the need to begin again. We have agreed to start afresh with a new name. Briefly, Wild Onion was our choice. Those looking for signature status will understand why Wild Onion Pastel Society was inappropriate. Thus, we have reconsidered and our official name is henceforth Chicago Pastel Painters.



Jessica Fine's One-Day Pastel-Making Workshop

MIX THE MOST GORGEOUS, BUTTERY COLORS YOU'VE EVER SEEN!

- Trained by Kitty Wallis
- Make pastels in colors not available elsewhere
- Take home between 50 and 60 sticks
- More pure pigment than commercial pastels
- Kitty Wallis formula and technique – non-toxic moist pastels

**Limited
Enrollment
SO ACT
NOW!**

Cost: \$200 (CPP members or NEIU students) or \$215*

Date: Saturday, May 31, 2014

Time: 9:30am until 4:30pm

Place: Northeastern Illinois University Fine Arts Building**
5500 North St. Louis Place (park in west lot)
Chicago, IL 60625



***Easily accessible by public transportation and expressways with free parking available*

For more information: **773-991-2258** • jess6139@me.com

APPLICATION

Please fill out and return this portion with your check or money order for full amount* to reserve your place in the workshop to:

Jessica Fine, PSA, CPP-M
5757 North Sheridan Road, #6G
Chicago, IL 60660
773-991-2258 • jess6139@me.com

Your name _____

Phone # _____

e-mail _____

*Cost: CPP Member (\$200) ___ NEIU Student (\$200)___ Other (\$215)___