

SKB Legacy News

ISSUE #12-SUMMER 2009

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FROM THE DIRECTOR-PAM DEAN CABLE

RavenSable@aol.com



This issue is dedicated in memoriam to Carol Grende Carmona who passed away after a long battle with leukemia. Carol's story written by Janene Grende is poignant, funny, and written with a sister's love. Carol was a dear friend and fellow art show road-warrior. For over 20 years we shared stories and supported one another when the vagaries of the biz threatened to overwhelm. Her sense of humor and pranks lightened the load for everyone. Carol was our sculpture instructor for our first workshop in Divide, CO, eight years ago; however, it was her personal friendship with Susan Kathleen Black that led to the birth of the Susan K. Black Foundation we fondly call SKB.

While doing an art show in Colorado Springs for the Humane Society, Carol thought to bring a small group of artists up Ute Pass to visit Lee and me. Among them was Susan Kathleen Black who had been a student of Lee's at Beartooth School of Wildlife Art. We were subsequently invited to participate in the next year's Humane Society show where yours truly met Jim Parkman, who would become Susan Kathleen's husband and the SKB Foundation's benefactor. I doubt Carol ever thought to realize what that simple act of friendship, a desire to bring her friends together, had created. We are deeply grateful. Carol will be greatly missed and thought of often. Our sincere sympathy to Carol's husband, David, and to her family. A party in celebration of Carol's life was held at Carol and David's ranch in Big Arm, MT, June 27.

Please enjoy the articles and news in this issue. Special thanks to our Dubois correspondent, Les LeFevre and to Carol Santora for her insight on working with pastels. Check out the business section for valuable information and add your applause for the great news sent in by fellow SKBers. PDC

FROM THE EDITOR-NANCY FOUREMAN E-mail: <u>rfoureman@skyenet.net</u>



TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN

This issue of Legacy News is dedicated to Carol Grende Carmona. We will all miss her and wish to record our memories. Occasionally, we are at the right place at the right time. My first encounter with Carol was at the SKB workshop/conference in Colorado 2002. Carol was the sculpting instructor and although I was not there to work in clay I could not stay out of her class enjoying all the energy she was inspiring in her students. Listening to Janene, her sister, and her laugh and interact with their quirky bantering was great fun for all. Just look at the art she created out of the love of subject, but also just for the love of art. We were all privileged to have this time with her.

In Memoriam CAROL GRENDE

By Janene Grende



C.A. GRENDE CAROL GRENDE CARMONA SKB INSTRUCTOR

I was just two weeks shy of my second birthday when Carol was born. Mom went to the hospital and came home without Carol, who had to stay an extra few days. Mom, who thought I would be overjoyed to see her, said I pushed past her and announced "Well, where's the baby?"

We had a great childhood growing up in Lewiston, Idaho. Back then it was safe for kids, and we would play all over the neighborhood with our friends, building tree houses, and once digging our own swimming hole in the center of the neighbors cornfield (although, we did get in trouble for that one).

We didn't have a care in the world. I can't remember once having my parents tell us to not talk to strangers or to watch out for anyone wanting to harm us; we were carefree, silly and just kids.

Carol, however, was the cautious one back then because she spent her fifth year of life flat on her back with rheumatic fever. The neighbor kids and I were so jealous of all the toys and attention she received. We had no idea of the gravity of the situation. Carol quickly learned to squeal if we touched her or wanted to play with anything of hers. Of course she also had the most treasured item of all: an etch-a-sketch. It all seems so trivial now when I look back at it. The day she was finally able to go outside, the neighbor kid hit her in the head with a rock. Boy, I'll tell you all hell broke loose after that--Mom was a wildcat. Truthfully, I'm surprised the kid lived another day. But it must have left an impression on me, because I took over being Carol's protector.



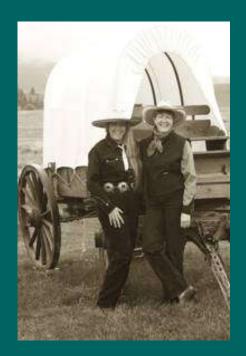
CAROL AND JANENE AS CHILDREN

CAROL GRENDE-CONTINUED

As she grew into a teenager, Carol became very outgoing and adventurous. She would ride her horse, Flash, all day long above the breaks of the Snake River. She chose him from a rancher's remuda because he was in the lead, with his head the highest and nostrils flared like he was blowing steam. Actually he was a rodeo pick-up horse and pretty well broke. He was fast, though. He was a horse that could really cover ground; none of our friend's horses could even come close. At that time in her life Carol had a need for speed. Our brother, who was a long-haul truck driver, would let Carol use his fast back 1974 Ford Mustang when he was out of town. One time Carol and I took my daughter LaRinda and drove the car to go visit our oldest brother and his family in Helena, Montana. Dad told us to call when we got there. Well, we buzzed right over in record time. At that time there was no speed limit in the state of Montana, and let's just say that the only thing that passed us was a corvette just out of Missoula, Montana, and he motioned for us to slow down! Carol, being the good daughter, called Dad when we arrived; and boy, he was not a happy Dad. For some reason he thought it should have taken us at least an hour or so longer to get there!



CAROL AND JANENE
AS TEENAGERS



CAROL AND JANENE AS GROWN-UPS

At that time I went off in my own world and had my second daughter, Jessi. Carol never had children; instead she had loads of friends, animals and incredible adventures. She moved to Alaska for a while and grew in her artistic endeavors. She loved the frontier spirit that was kind of an ongoing, living history of the place. The winters were hard on her, though, and she needed more sunlight. At times she said the dark almost drove her crazy. Eventually, she moved back to Lewiston and then to Montana, where she lived in the Bitterroot Valley for a number of years. She had her appaloosa, Arrow's Little Bow, and her Dalmatian, Dee, with her then. When she got Dee the ranch owner where she lived laughed at her choice, saying she had chosen the dumbest and most high-spirited dog she could get, unlike his chocolate lab. She made him a bet she could train Dee better than he could train his dog. Then Carol went to work with Dee and before you knew it she was a trained super-star. She not only did everything to voice commands, but she also used hand signals. To this day I've not seen a better trained dog. I was over at the ranch and the owner's dog was rolling on a fish that they had just caught, while Dee was sitting quietly in the back of the truck waiting to be released. I don't know what the bet was, but I hope she bet him a bunch of money!

During her time in the Bitterroot Valley Carol met her husband David. David was the love and support she had been looking for her whole life; they were married the fall of 1991. Carol was always a dreamer and she loved the history of places. When she and David moved to Big Arm, Montana, the acreage they bought had wagon ruts across the rocks in the pasture from times almost forgotten. She said she felt like this was where her soul lived. She was home.

CAROL GRENDE-CONTINUED

David and Carol settled in and she did some of the best work of her life there. Carol was the most dedicated artist I've ever known. She was consistently turning out work. When she decided to specialize in just bronze she grew in leaps and bounds. We were lucky to have parents who were always supportive in our dreams, and it had always been her dream to create monument-sized sculptures, something I couldn't even imagine. She had talked about doing monumental sculptures since she was a child, just as I had talked about painting and illustrating books; we both always had an overwhelming desire to create things.



CAROL IN COLORADO

The life she made in Montana with David was full of peace; I think part of her peacefulness was that she didn't care about things she couldn't change. When people talked politics she just agreed, no matter which way they leaned. She said fighting over it all was not going to change anything, so she just refused to have an opinion. Of course most people just assumed she thought like they did. She just went with the flow, but if she got really mad she would call me and we'd laugh about it. If something was out of control we had a joke where she said she would tell them "Wait 'til my sister gets here--she'll kick your ass!" And I think she actually did tell a few people that!

She was very brave in her fight against cancer, and you'd never see anyone so dedicated to someone as David. He was there every treatment and every step. She withstood some horrific pain in the hope that it would cure her before it killed her, and the whole time she kept her sense of humor. When I was in Houston with her, the doctor came in, with his entourage of several other doctors trailing him. He asked Carol how she felt and she said "I feel good"--only she sang it like James Brown. Then the doctor started singing and the others were doing the back-up *do-wops*. It was hysterical and we all laughed until we cried. Another time he said she was tough, and she replied "Tougher than twisted owl crap stuck to a barb wire fence." He said he'd have to write that down. Carol's favorite saying was from a girlfriend's father: "Charge on. Have no Fear!" Not a bad saying to live and die by.

Carol has five monumental sculptures: Lewis and Clark at Clarksville, IN; the War Memorial in the park in downtown Kalispell, MT; and three of her 12-foot Sacajawea placed at the airport (soon to be placed at the Federal Building) Great Falls, MT; at Lewis and Clark State College, Lewiston, ID; and in a park in Dayton, WA.

So if you have a few minutes to remember Carol, remember these things: she didn't waste time on things she couldn't change. She always sent postcards from wherever she traveled. She had an uncanny knack of arriving the moment all the work was done (she laughed about that one). She laughed often and from the depth of her soul. She was dedicated to her art. She was very generous. She loved David, all her friends, and family. Anyone who really knew her was lucky indeed!

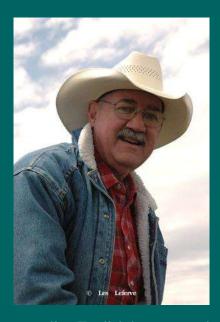
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DUBOIS WY-Correspondent, Les Lefevre

Email: <u>llefevre@fuse.net</u>

I spent January and part of February in Dubois and am preparing to return in a couple of weeks. The winter while I was there was actually milder than in Ohio, where I live most of the year. While Ohio had snow and ice storms, we had some sunny shirt sleeve weather in Dubois. Recently in the last two weeks they got a 12 inch snow fall but I am sure it was gone quickly.

The Wyoming National Guard Unit of which a few Dubois residents are members is being activated to either Iraq or Afghanistan. Jeff Milton, the realtor and Sam Beecham, son of Greg Beecham, who has been to Iraq before, is among them. God Speed.



The new DVI building at the 90 degree intersection has been leased to an online English language school teaching Koreans to speak English. Sounds strange and I was hoping for something better, but I guess it will provide jobs which are sorely needed in Dubois.

The Historical museum has some new exhibits displaying Indian artifacts from Chief Washikee and the Wind River Reservation. Local artist Gary Keimig has done a new mural at the museum as well. The Silver Sage Gallery has been remodeled and is now part of the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce. They had a good year in sales last year and we are hoping it continues into 2009.

I have been painting horses and cowboys, getting myself in the mindset for a roundup on my way to Dubois, stopping on the way to visit my ranching friends in South Dakota. Below is my latest painting which will be at the Silver Sage Gallery and is titled "Remuda Sundown".

I will return to Ohio in June and then out West again to Artist Ride in August. See you in Dubois for the SKB workshop and the beautiful month of September. Les



Remuda Sundown
Les Lefevre

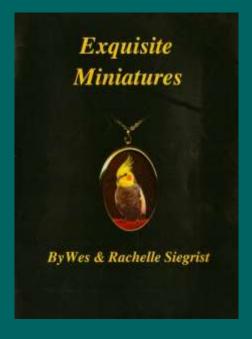


Exquisite Miniatures WES AND RACHELLE SIEGRIST

www.artofwildlife.com

Exquisite Miniatures features the miniature paintings of Wes and Rachelle Siegrist, with a forward by Dr. David J. Wagner, the foremost authority on the history of American Wildlife Art, and an introduction from the R.W. Norton Art Gallery in Shreveport, LA. The small dimensioned hardback book contains fifty-four signature paintings including landscapes, portraits, still life, wildlife, and other subjects by Wes and Rachelle Siegrist. Reproduced at actual size, along with essays about the history and contemporary movement in miniature art, the paintings are accompanied by quotes from both the Siegrists and dozens of cited references about this enchanting tiny genre.

Wes and Rachelle Siegrist are an American husband and wife team who mesmerize viewers with miniature paintings so exquisitely crafted that they are often mistaken for tiny photographs. Their tiny treasures, as collectors often refer to them, typically measure less than 9 square inches and appear even more detailed when viewed under magnification! A hallmark of their work is their ability to convey the feeling of a larger canvas or the essence of the natural world in miniature.



Wes and Rachelle Siegrist are members of the Miniature Artists of America, the Miniature Art Society of Florida, the Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, D.C., the Cider Painters of America, and the Hilliard Society of England. They are the authors of the world's first standard definition of miniature art adopted by the Association of Miniature Artists. It is no small wonder, therefore, that the Siegrists are referred to as "World Ambassadors for Miniature Art."

The release of the book will precede a solo museum exhibition by the Siegrists: *Under the Magnifying Glass: Exquisite Miniatures by Wes & Rachelle Siegrist* will premiere at the prestigious R.W. Norton Art Gallery, in Shreveport, LA from May 4 through July 25, 2010. The Norton Art Gallery is home to one of the great museum miniature collections in the United States. *Exquisite Miniatures* is produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C., with company President, David J. Wagner, Ph.D., serving as Curator/Tour Director.

Exquisite Miniatures by Wes & Rachelle Siegrist
Published by Wes Siegrist, 2008
Hardcover, 88 pages, 62 color photographs highlighting 56 paintings
ISBN 978-0-9821278-0-3

Under The Magnifying Glass: Exquisite Miniatures by Wes and Rachelle Siegrist Exhibition produced by <u>David J. Wagner</u>, L.L.C. <u>David J. Wagner</u>, Ph.D., Curator/Tour Director

"Tiny Treasures of the Natural World"

Also Check on Wes and Rachelle's website www.artofwildlife.com



Hackberry Emperor



Delicate Dreamer



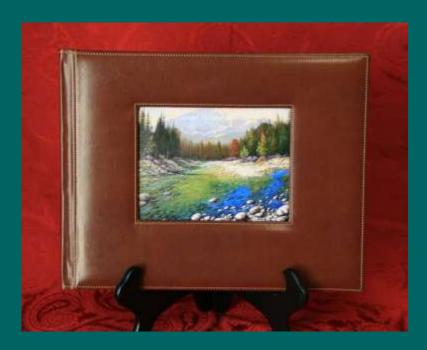
The White-faced Beach Club



Trumpet Delight



"VANISHING VISTAS" By KENNETH W. SHANIKA



The West is known for its beautiful mountains and breathtaking vistas. I have been working on a series of paintings recording special places that are disappearing. As more people move to the West, development follows; more roads, shopping centers and houses. Everyone wants the best views. Pristine views are getting harder to find.

The book is available in two different hard cover editions and in two sizes; *Deluxe and Standard Edition*.

The large format English Leather hardcover book is 15" x 11.5" inches with 42 full color reproductions. Each book is signed and numbered by the artist. It is limited to 100 S/N plus 15 APs. As a **Special Bonus** a signed and limited edition Giclee print suitable for framing in included. Priced at \$160.00, includes shipping in the continental US

The *Standard Edition* has a natural taupe linen cover and is 11.25" x 8.75." Priced at \$65.00 plus shipping.

Both editions are personally signed and numbered. I'd be delighted to personally dedicate it for you. Both editions are limited to 100 copies plus 15 Artist Proofs.

Each book is printed on demand. Please allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery. Order directly from my studio at 303-647-1085. *Ken Shanika*

JOAQUIN SOROLLA

A new 156-page hardcover catalog has been published and printed in Spain in preparation for the opening of the Sorolla Exhibition at the Prado. This new volume is being rendered with the highest quality materials in both printing and binding. The English edition (9.5 x 12) will also include 300 images in full color. Sorolla's daughter Maria, graces the dust jacket.

Synopsis provided by the publisher:

"Joaquin Sorolla is considered one of the greatest masters of Spanish modern painting and a key referent in the history of art. This view is now being endorsed by the Museo del Prado as it organizes an ambitious anthological exhibition that aims to place this master artist among the pantheon of great Spanish painters that include El Greco, Velázquez and Goya.

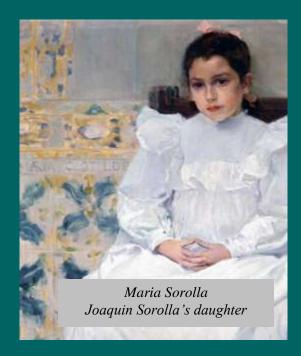
The 138 works that are now being gathered together in the new halls of the leading Spanish museum between spring and summer 2009 make up the most far-reaching exhibition project devoted to a 19th-century painter that the Prado has ever embarked upon - in its entire history.

The show will include paintings from collections and major museums in Valencia, Barcelona, Madrid, London, Venice, Paris, New York, Boston, Dallas and Saint Louis - including most notably his exceptional set of fourteen panels entitled La Visión de España, which will be presented alongside the bulk of his masterpieces. Included are also his scenes of beaches bathed by the light of the Mediterranean. These panels are 12 to 14 feet high and if placed end to end, would measure 260 feet.

The forthcoming Prado catalog features detailed and up-to-date information on the works, along with texts by the leading Sorolla specialists, who explore and analyze his painting, his personality and his position both in Spanish art and on the international scene."

The publisher is planning to begin distributing the book to America in September, 2009, but...

Barnsite will be provided with advanced release copies of the catalog in the third week of May, 2009 through special arrangements. The pre-publication price is \$119, plus \$15 priority shipping and insurance within the US. Please email with destination details for a quote on export shipping costs.



Ordering Books

To order books call 920-388-4391 or <u>email</u> the Barnsite or fill out an <u>order form</u> and mail it in.

For more information about these books, and others, go to our <u>website</u> for a full description.

For more information check out our <u>blog</u> and click the Sorolla button on the June 15th exhibit invitation.

Barnsite Gallery 109 Duvall St Kewaunee, WI 54216

www.barnsiteartstudio.com

Tour the Sorolla Exhibition

Eight Essays on Joaquin Sorolla y Bastida is the only illustrated catalog of Sorolla's 1909 exhibition at The Hispanic Society of America. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the exhibition, a collectible centennial edition including a facsimile of the original two volumes as well as an additional third volume with a Spanish translation will be presented to a select group of "Friends of the Hispanic Society" with the company of several important personalities from Spain including Blanca Pons Sorolla, Sorolla's great granddaughter.



Cosiendo la Vela (Sewing the Sail), Joaquin Sorolla

Call Dick Bell **920.388.4391** for further information and visit the **BarnsiteGallery.com**.

The most telltale sign of a painter's genius and the hallmark of personal style is wholly absent from view. Is this the soul so valuable in the painting process?

PASTEL NOTES

OVERVIEW OF THE SOFT PASTEL MEDIUM

Carol Santora, PSA

Soft pastels are the most versatile medium, combining drawing and painting. It is also a very forgiving medium. I approach pastel in the same manner that I approach oil painting, working dark to light. I fell in love with soft pastels when I began to use them in mixed media work.

Soft pastels are not chalk, they are pure pigment, the same pigment found in oil, acrylic, and watercolor paint combined with a binder (gum Arabic, gum tragacanth, or methyl cellulose) and formed into sticks. Often times a preservative and/or a fungicide is also added to the mix.



MOO SOFT PASTEL 10.5" x 10.5"

Pastels vary by brands in size, thickness and length of sticks, shape - either round or square - and degree of hardness or softness. They are one of the purest forms of pigment, and have been around since man drew on cave walls. Pastel paintings have stood the test of time, are light-fast and archival.

The word *pastel* comes from the Italian word *pastello*, which means *paste*.

Pastels can be blended or used on end, on its side, or any other way you can hold it to create a variety of strokes. By using them in different mark-making techniques, the artist can create a plethora of textures. "*Moo*" (10.5"x10.5," 2009) is a soft pastel painting on sanded paper using both blending and mark-making techniques.

I like the expressiveness and the rich depth of color I can achieve, in addition to the immediacy of the results, with soft pastel. The disadvantages of soft pastel that the artist needs to know are the framing issues and the fragility of the sticks. Some artists do spray fixatives on their pastels, but they do darken the color and do not really avoid the little bits of pastel dust that eventually find their way onto your mat. Pastels cannot be mixed to create new colors like other media can, however they can be layered and blended. The beginning pastellist will need to acquire a large number of sticks to have a satisfactory variety of colors.

Carol Santora, PSA, is an expressionist animal painter, capturing the spirit of animals in soft pastel.

To see her work, visit her website: www.carolsantora.com

MUSEUM FISH SURPRISE "An open fish sandwich, a luncheon favorite"

4 slices white bread

Butter

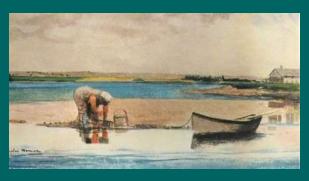
- 4 thick slices ripe tomato
- 2 stuffed eggs (cut egg in half; using fork mash egg yolk and stuffed into egg half)
- 2 cups white fish, cooked and flaked

Salt and pepper

- 4 cups mayonnaise
- 4 stiffly beaten egg whites

Butter bread on both sides. Put tomato slices on top. /Invert stuffed egg half on top of tomato and cover with flaked fish mixed with a little mayonnaise and equally divided over the bread slices. /Season to taste. /Spread all over with 4 cups mayonnaise (or a little less) folded into stiffly beaten egg whites. Bake in hot oven for 20 minutes. Slip under broiler to brown about 2 minutes.

Serves 4



Clamming Winslow Homer American 1836-1910

Don't like fish—Try this one—Simple and delicious

SWEDISH APPLE PIE

1 egg
3/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup flour
1 tsp baking powder
1/4 tsp salt
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1/4 tsp vanilla
1 cup chopped apple
1 cup chopped nut meats
Whipped cream or vanilla ice cream



The Trades: Pastry-Maker Abraham Bosse French 1602-1675

Beat egg until lemon colored and forms a ribbon. Blend in remaining ingredients. Spoon into greased 9-inch pie plate and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Serve with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.

Serves 6-8

DÉCOR

Want to know more about framing? Consult the experts.

<u>www.decormagazine.com</u>

<u>www.framedbydecor.com</u>

<u>www.volumeframingmagazine.com</u>

www.artandframingsources.com



THE BUSINESS SIDE OF THE ART WORLD

TIPS ON PRICING

Most painters struggle with the issue of pricing. They want a fair price that reflects the work, expenses and materials they have invested in their paintings. How do you deal with galleries, coming up with that price amount that will reflect a profit at the end of a sale? First and foremost, you have to be positive in establishing that price to a customer or gallery owner. Showing hesitation and uncertainty about the value of your work is not professional. Visiting a framer recently taught me a valuable lesson on knowing what to say at the right time. The framer was showing me a frame that I admired, knowing and feeling that I hesitated on the price she explained to me, "It is 24 K gold leaf". It sounded to me that was right up there with fine jewelry and explained the price base on that particular frame sample. What I learned from this was having the right answer at the right time about my product/painting helped a customer decide that indeed this is worth the money. Don't assume customers or gallery owners know how much you have put into a piece of art work. Same is true with the time you have spent. Another story relates to time spent; a small painting that involved travel and research helped sell a painting that at first the customer was hesitant on the price. The painting sold and we were both happy.

Look at other artists in your area and at the gallery you want to pursue and get your prices in line. If you need more money for all your work being shown at that location, find another location.

Keep pricing easy for your gallery and customers to understand, ten dollars on one and one thousand on another is just too confusing for that potential buyer. Once you increase pricing it is almost impossible to drop down to a lower formula without customers wondering, "What's Up"? Your expenses have stayed the same regardless of what the economy is doing at the present.

Always have a price inventory sheet ready for the gallery. It is also helpful in selling your work if you give some history or points of interest, written out, so the gallery representative is knowledgeable about what they are trying to sell.

One more tip; once your painting is with your contracted gallery representative, it deserves your cooperation, do not sell a painting to the gallery's customer once it has been released and you have taken the painting home. Believe it or not, customers will call an artist months later wanting a reduced price. If the customer still wants to buy the painting you owe a commission to the gallery.

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Artisans are looking for new ways to market their work; try contacting interior designers: www.asid.org
If you have chosen interior designers you want to look at your work, make it easily available to them. A VIP notebook with your recent works available will show them a body of work that might just be what they are looking for but do not know where to find it. VIP notebooks can be expensive, as in the leather look. Or inexpensive, local office suppliers look, with neatly written information and clear photos of your work.



Losing the Light 2
Oil on Panel
24 x 31.5

CAROL WASSON

Carol was chosen for the second biennial national juried exhibition
Pastels Chicago 2009
Koehnline Museum of Art
Oakton Community College
1600 East Golf Road
Des Plains, IL

Carol also won awards at the Randolph County Art Association for:

"Ethanol Plant"-pastel

"White Peonies"-pastel

SKB COLORADO TEEN WORKSHOP Program Director and Instructor: **KEN SHANIKA**

"This is the first student art show for high school students of the year. Students from the two high schools in the Woodland Park, CO area submit their best art to be considered for this show. The top 15 pieces are exhibited. Eight of the fifteen pieces were created by four of my students.

Best of Show, Second Place, Third Place, Honorable Mention and People's Choice Awards will be presented. I'm very proud of my students. As you can see they are doing very well."

FINE ART SCHOLARSHIP EXHIBIT
HOSTED AT THE EICHMAN GALLERY
SPONSORED BY PARK STATE BANK AND TRUST
Woodland Park, CO

DAVID YARGER won 3 awards PHILLIP YARGER won 2 awards HARRISON BLAUCH 2 awards DA NEAL LILLER won 1 award

*Ken's students have won awards at this show for the past three years. Congratulations!!! Each award is an Education IRA valued at \$100 provided by Park State Bank and Trust.



Summer Kitchen

JACQUIE CLARK-FWS, PWS, NWS

Jacquie Clark has added more initials to her credit. She has been accepted into the National Watercolor Society as a signature member-NWS

This is an artist with a different twist. She is left handed and paints right handed creating her own signature style; mostly interiors with lots of furniture, sometimes including dogs of different breeds and colors. One never knows where inspiration comes from and it is all around us every day.

www.jacquieclark.com

LINKS

www.artofwildlife.com
www.paintamerica.org
www.artandframinggallery.com
www.artbusiness.com
www.societyofanimalartists.com
www.artistsmagazine.com/pleinarifestival
www.barnsitegallery.com

www.carolsantora.xom www.asid.org Interior Designers www.masterworksfornature.org www.pacificwildlife.com www.juriedartservices.com www.oilpaintersofamerica.com www.decormagazine.com

ON THE HOME FRONT



In Memoriam: Diane Hertling, wife of our own Heiner Hertling (SKB supporter and instructor) passed on after a two year battle with cancer. Our deepest sympathies to Heiner, their four daughters and extended family: Wendy (Gregory) Weber, Heidi (Bradford) Merritt, Stefanie (Phil) Schwaiger and Melanie Hertling; grandchildren, Jared, Morgan, Chase, Jason, Kaden, Hannah, Gabriel, Paige, Ethan and Asher. Diane's brother, Bill Broome; nephew, Brian Broome. Heiner and Diane have been an intricate part of SKB since our first year. Their story, so intertwined with SKB, will be featured in our next issue.

Blossom II ~ Art of Flowers was launched officially last month. You should have received the announcement and the artist prospectus. If not, please email me for a copy. We are using the Internet in the first few months of promotion. There are so many art related organizations to be reached. If you have suggestions please contact me. Print ads will follow this fall. I hope you all participate in the most well-awarded art competition in the U.S.

Blossom I ~ Art of Flowers is presently on exhibit at the Spartanburg County Museum of Art, SC. One last stop at the Canton Museum of Art, Canton, OH will mark the end of a very successful 2 ½ year tour with 15% of the works sold along the way. As most of you know, works selling on museum tours is a rarity, so this speaks volumes about both the popularity of florals and the quality of the work. The accolades and feedback on Blossom have been extraordinary. Kudos to our curator and museum tour director, David Wagner, PhD for his stellar work and guidance. Now we must truly outdo ourselves with Blossom II.

The Dubois, WY Workshop/Art Conference, Sep 13-18, 2009 is shaping up nicely. If you haven't signed up yet please try to join us. Returning instructors John Seerey-Lester and Lee Cable will be on hand with our newest Rose Award Winner, Nancy Foureman teaching for us for the first time. Bob Koenke and Susie Seerey-Lester head up our marketing team and will be addressing what to do about sales in this economy. As usual all our former instructors are invited as our guests to come paint with us. Registration was held to last year's price to assist you getting there. See you in Dubois. Pam