



# SPRINGFIELD ART MUSEUM

May - June 2009

N E W S L E T T E R

# MUSEUM NEWS

## Museum Hours:

Tuesday- Wednesday: 9:00 A.M. till 5:00 P.M.; Thursday: 9:00 A.M. till 8:00 P.M.; Friday - Saturday: 9:00 A.M. till 5:00 P.M.; Sunday: 1:00 P.M. till 5:00 P.M. Closed Monday, City of Springfield and national holidays. The Museum is conveniently located just west of the intersection of National Avenue and Bennett Street in the south-central part of the city.



**Springfield Art Museum**  
1111 East Brookside Drive  
Springfield, Missouri 65807  
417-837-5700.

On the Web at <http://www.springfieldmgo.gov/egov/art/>

## Mission Statement

The Springfield Art Museum is dedicated to enhancing the education and documenting the diverse cultural heritage of the people of southwest Missouri, through the collection, preservation and exhibition of art objects.

**School and group tours** are encouraged and may be arranged by calling the Museum two weeks in advance of a planned visit.

On the cover: Hamburger, *lithograph, 1980, by Robert Cottingham. Museum Acquisition Fund, Part of an upcoming exhibit, "Buy, Buy, Buy: Commercial Arts Around Us", that opens on 2 May.*

## From the Director Jerry A. Berger

A number of special exhibitions has been scheduled at the Museum with several opening soon. The annual Congressional Art Competition was held on 16 April with Congressman Roy Blunt in attendance to announce the winning works. Works by high school students from the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District were submitted for consideration by a jury of art professionals from colleges and universities in the District. Glendale High School artist Emily Wilker's watercolor titled *Genesis Baby* was selected by the jurors to be on exhibit in the Nation's Capitol for a year and two works, *Quixotic* by Kickapoo High School artist Vincent Penka and an untitled pen & ink drawing by Strafford High School artist Nick Magnifico, were selected to be on display in Congressman Blunt's Joplin and Springfield offices for a year. Our congratulations go to these three very talented artists and our appreciation goes to Congressman Blunt for making this opportunity available to young artists in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. The Southwest Missouri Museum Associates hosted a reception in honor of the artists and the Congressman and the hospitality was enjoyed by a large group of attendees.

Part II of *The Legacy of Robert Palmer*, an exhibit fea-

turing forty-four of this renowned political cartoonist's original drawings, will be on view through 31 May. From a trove of over twelve hundred drawings received as a gift from the late artist's family, the works are a glimpse of social, political and human nature issues that are universal and timeless.

The *Jon Schueler: Weathering* exhibition opened with a reception hosted by SMMA on Friday, 24 April. Magda Salvesen, the artist's widow, came to Springfield from New York City for the event and we were delighted that she was able to celebrate this special event with us. I am most appreciative of her generosity in facilitating the loan of the works from the artist's estate and for funding received from her and the Jon Schueler Foundation to print the exhibition catalogue, buy national advertising and help pay for transportation of the works for the exhibition. The exhibition will be on view through 31 May.

This year, watercolor aficionados will be in for a special treat. In addition to *Watercolor U.S.A. 2009*, we will feature a concurrent exhibition of thirty watercolor paintings by members of the Japan Watercolor Federation. This is part of an exchange of exhibitions between the Japan Watercolor Federation and the Watercolor U.S.A. Honor Society. Members of both organizations will be present for the opening festivities on Friday, 5 June, 5:30-7:00 P.M., with a reception hosted by SMMA. The public



## 2009 Congressional Art Competition

*Congressman Roy Blunt presented recognition ribbons to three 7th Congressional District high school students at the 2009 Congressional Art Competition held at the Springfield Art Museum. (Left to right) Tracy Bruton, art instructor at Glendale High School, Congressman Blunt, Emily Wilker and family with the winning entry, "Genesis Baby", a watercolor that will be displayed for a year in the U. S. Capitol in Washington D.C., Congressman Blunt presents a ribbon to Ron Reese, instructor at Strafford High School, for Nick Magnifico for pen and ink. Cindy Bylander, art instructor at Kickapoo High School, and Congressman Blunt with Vincent Penka and family. Penka and Magnifico drawings were selected to be on display in Congressman's Joplin and Springfield offices for a year.*

is invited to attend this special event and it is certain to be a gala evening.

An exhibition of works in the Museum's permanent collection by artists being honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards by the Watercolor U.S.A. Honor Society will be on display from 5 June-2 August in the Kelly Gallery. Four of the five awards are being given posthumously in honor of Rob Erdle, Judy Gard, George Shook and Electra Stamelos. Lee Weiss is also being honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award and has a work included in this year's *Watercolor U.S.A.* Unfortunately, the Museum does not have a work by George Shook in its collection. All of these artists are important to the history of watercolor painting and these awards are a wonderful acknowledgment of their artistic contributions.

*Watercolor U.S.A. 2009* was judged by the Museum's Curator of Collections Chalen Phillips, Curator of Exhibitions Sarah Buhr and me. It is a very large exhibition with 155 works by 137 artists from thirty-

five states selected from 659 works by 357 artists from forty-two states. Serving as a juror for a major, national competitive exhibition is a daunting task and, after much deliberation, we chose works that are diverse and deserving of inclusion. Our congratulations go to those artists whose works were included and our appreciation to all those who entered. Congratulations also go to the award winners. The providers of cash and merchandise awards made it possible to recognize outstanding achievements by a number of artists. Our gratitude goes to the many generous donors who made it possible to present these fine awards.

The Museum's grounds will be greatly enhanced with beautiful flowers and shrubs provided by the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Chapter 30294, the Ever Green Garden Club and the Southwest Missouri Museum Associates. For a number of years, the members of Thrivent Financial for

Lutherans have planted the flower beds at the Museum. This year, they will be planting beautiful flowers around the flag pole at the main entrance and in the court yard. SMMA is providing geraniums to grace the planters in the court yard as has been generously done in the past. A new group, the Ever Green Garden Club, is planting perennials and annuals in the flower bed adjacent to the parking lot at the main entrance and has planted two ground cover junipers and a Harry Lauder's Walking Stick shrub above the retaining wall at the southwest corner of the new wing. We are very pleased to have these generous groups add beauty and color to our grounds. Our visitors will have a delightful array of flowers to enjoy as they enter the Museum.

We are pleased to co-sponsor, with the Phelps Neighborhood Association, the Phelps Helps Concert Series each summer. Held at our amphitheater on the west grounds of the Museum, the concerts are a wonderful



*Run Away Blues, 1988, oil on canvas, 50 x 79 inches (o/c 1571). Courtesy Jon Schueler Estate.*

opportunity to hear great music and to support local charities. The musicians who perform donate their talents so that contributions collected can go to the charity of the musicians' choice. The concerts will be on Thursday evenings this year. Concert goers can visit the Museum and attend the concerts as well since the Museum is open until 8:00 P.M. on Thursday evenings. The first concert will be "Blues Night" with Organic Soul and Steve Smith & The Sneakers performing on Thursday, 21 May, beginning at 7:00 PM. The beneficiary will be C.A.S.A. On 18 June, "Classical Night" will feature members of the Springfield Symphony and contributions will go to The Alzheimer's Association. We hope that you will come to the concerts to enjoy the fine music and support the deserving charities.

With the marvelous weather, a trip to your museum will be an enjoyable adventure. Exciting artworks

and music will stimulate your mind and provide a wonderful experience.

## Exhibitions

*Jon Schueler: Weathering*, opened at the Museum on 25 April 2009. Jon Schueler was part of the second generation of Abstract Expressionists, yet his artistic sensibilities were attuned to the more Romantic aesthetic of a landscape painter. These potentially conflicting ideas managed to merge together in Schueler's work resulting in gorgeous, painterly landscapes that appear abstract, yet are not.

This exhibition of Schueler's work is centered on a number of very large canvases that were created onsite at the Talbot Rice Art Centre in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1981. The series was titled, *The Search*, and three of the six pieces created are on view at the Museum. These paintings express Schueler's particular merging of abstrac-

tion and nature on a super-large scale (79 x 168 inches). The remainder of the exhibit complements these works by focusing on many of his later paintings which inherently reflect the importance of the weather in and around Mallaig, Scotland on the artist and his sensibilities.

All of the paintings in the exhibition are on loan from the artist's estate with the generous cooperation of the artist's widow, Magda Salvesen.



*That Time of Year, pen and ink, by Bob Palmer. Gift of the Palmer Family.*

**Phelps Helps 2009  
presents  
“Third Thursdays”**

Concerts are held on the third Thursday if each month at 7:00 P.M.at the stage west of the Springfield Art Museum. In case of rain, the performance will move to the Museum Auditorium.

**“Blues Night”**

21 May 2009

Organic Soul and  
Steve Smith and  
The Sneakers

Charity: Court Appointed  
Special Advocates

**“Classical Night”**

18 June 2009

Members of the  
Springfield Symphony

Charity: The Alzheimer's  
Association

**“Jazz Night”**

16 July, 2009

Three 4 Jazz and The  
Linda Sala Jazz Project

Charity: The Family  
ViolenceCenter

**“Mayapple Night”**

17 September 2009

Dallas Jones and  
Brother Wiley

Charity: The Kitchen

## Docents



*Mary Sue Hoban, a member  
of the 2007 Docent class. —*

Each year, new and interesting individuals join the docent corps and the class of 2007 was no exception. Among the new docents was Mary Sue Hoban. She had relocated to Springfield from Boston, Massachusetts for family reasons. Mary Sue had lived in Boston for many years having originally gone there to attend Boston College. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, with a Concentration in Management, she worked in the mutual fund industry for more than 15 years. She spent most of her career in communications with investors, business partners, the media and the general public.

Mary Sue has always enjoyed the arts. She trained as a guide for the Boston Public

Library Art and Architecture tour. She was a long-time member of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

“The long list of artists I admire is varied, and includes people from Michelangelo to Mary Cassatt to Gauguin to Kandinsky and crosses media. There are even artists whose work I don't find to be particularly attractive...but are intriguing to me.”

“Part of the joy of art for me is exploring what the artist might have been experiencing while they were creating. And one of the great joys of loving art is sharing what you know with others and encouraging them to explore and expand their own interests. That is what I enjoy most about being a docent.”

In addition to her interests in art, she enjoys traveling, reading and the outdoors. Mary Sue is an avid gardener.

It is not too late to submit your docent training application. Applications are on the Museum's website.

## Education

Spring classes at the Museum are already underway and it is time to plan for the summer classes. Registration begins 26 May and ends 26 June. Many classes fill quickly so don't delay your decision.

Classes will be from 7 July through 7 August. Classes will be Tuesday/Thursday or Wednesday/Friday. Workshops for adults will be on Thursday evenings. If you have not taken a class in several years, contact the Museum to upgrade your mailing.



*A portion of the works in the elementary division of the 2009 All School Exhibition held at the Springfield Art Museum. —*

# SMMA NEWS

## President's Letter Betty Kinser



As President of SMMA from May 2007 till April 2009, I would like to say how much I appreciate the members, the Board of Trustees, and the Executive Committee for all their hard work during my tenure. It has been an honor for me to serve as President and to have the opportunity to work with SMMA. I am very proud of SMMA and what they have accomplished. I thank you all. - Betty Kinser

## Memorials

### **Samuel O. King**

In memory of  
Barbara Helmkamp,  
member At-Large and a  
Board of Trustee Member

### **Ava Group**

in memory of  
Jerry Hailey

## Speaker Gifts

### **Renaissance Art Group**

in recognition of  
Beverly Steelman

### **Creative Crafts**

in honor of  
their docent tour

### **American Arts**

in recognition of  
Beth Jones

### **Living Art**

in recognition of  
Wayne Glenn of KTSR

### **Home Design**

in recognition of  
Dottie Dillard

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Thielen Gallery on May 13, 2009; refreshments at 9:30 A.M., meeting at 10:00 A.M. All members of SMMA are invited to attend this informative meeting; meet the new Board of Trustees and the new Executive Committee for 2009/2010.

## Calendar

May 13, 2009-Annual Meeting (Thielen Gallery); refreshments @ 9:30 A.M. meeting @ 10:00 A.M.

### **May, June, July**

No board meetings; we will resume meetings in August.

## Museum Shop

The Museum Shop, run by SMMA, is open Tuesday through Sunday from 1:00 P.M. till 5:00 P.M.

The profits from this shop go to the Springfield Art Museum. SMMA is a non profit organization and no tax is charged on merchandise. If you are an SMMA member you will received 10% off your total merchandise over \$10.00 (except consignment items).

Please come by and take a look. New merchandise is arriving daily. If you need a gift, a card, a book, a tie, a music box, a purse or items by an artist this is the place to come. Remember, Mother's Day is May 10<sup>th</sup>. Come see what we have for our Moms.

## Qdoba Fund Raiser

Qdoba Mexican Grill Fund Raiser is now in progress. This is a 100% profit for SMMA; proceeds go toward the Springfield Art Museum. Coupon books can be purchased in the Museum Shop, the front desk or from the SMMA office.

SMMA would like to thank Randy and Nancy Allen for their donation of these coupon books from Qdoba Mexican Grill for this project. Their generosity is most appreciated.

## Scholarships

**Beau Vivant** donation



*Renaissance Art Group gathered to enjoy the program given by Beverly Steelman in her beautiful home.*

---

## Pecan Fund Raiser

The Ways and Means committee would like to thank all the members and customers for supporting this fund raiser. There are still some pecans available. If you have someone you need to give a gift to, why not a package of pecans, or for your own use in baking. You can purchase these pecans in the Museum Shop or call the SMMA office.



*The Geranium Fund Raiser was a success thanks to the SMMA members, family and friends. Helping to distribute the plants (left to right) are Norene Rinker, Mary Lee Marsh, Beverly Steelman and Linda Peacock.*

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD ART MUSEUM  
SPRINGFIELD ART MUSEUM  
1111 EAST BROOKSIDE DRIVE  
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65807

Museum Calendar

May

- 11: ***“Watercolor U.S.A. 2009”*** patron preview. For details, contact the Museum.
- 14: Museum Board of Directors meeting, 6:00 P.M., Conference Room.
- 21: Phelps Helps Concert Series: *“Blues Night”*, featuring Organic Soul and The Sneakers, 7:00 P.M. Springfield Art Museum Amphitheater.
- 21: Friends of SAM Board meeting, 6:00 P.M., Conference Room.
- 31: ***“Jon Schueler: Weathering”*** closes.

June

- 5: Preview reception for ***“Watercolor U.S.A. 2009”*** and ***“The Japanese Watercolor Federation”*** hosted by SMMA, 5:30 - 7:00 P.M.
- 6: ***“Watercolor U.S.A. 2009”*** and ***“The Japanese Watercolor Federation”*** opens.
- 11: Museum Board of Directors meeting, 6:00 P.M., Conference Room
- 18: Friends of SAM Board meeting, 6:00 P.M., in the Conference Room.
- 18: Phelps Helps Concert Series: *“Classical Night”*, featuring Members of the Springfield Symphony, 7:00 P.M. Springfield Art Museum Amphitheater.

© Copyright 2009. The City of Springfield Art Museum. All rights reserved. Copyright of individual artworks are held by the respective artists. No image in this newsletter may be reproduced in any form without permission of the copyright holder.