



"Perspectives" Newsletter

June 2009

The Wilbraham Art League is established by a group of committed artists for the purpose of developing active community interest and providing education in the field of fine arts. Membership is open to artists, artisans, patrons, businesses, and all other persons interested in and supportive of fine arts in the Hampden County area.

President's Message by Frank Tencza

It is the start of another summer of events, art shows, music, warm days, and vacations. We've just finished our Duets show at the Wilbraham Library and that was a display of some pretty good art. It's always a pleasure to see what creative ideas people come up with. This year I was especially taken with the beautiful display by the duo of Fran Selva and Ray Hunt. Their work was in one of the glass cabinets just inside the entryway and featured their take on butterflies. Wood-carving and basketry combined to make really good art.

Our Garden Club Plant Sale and Art Show was pretty successful. Not sure how much art was sold, but it was good to be at Gazebo Park with the Garden Club. Gave us more of a presence in town and, I'm sure, exposed us and our art to many new contacts as people from all over come to the Plant Sale. It was nice to meet the Garden Club people and I'm sure we will be partnering with them in the future. Now that we have a small canopy, we set it up and determined that it does attract attention and we need a larger one. Have been looking into canopies and also grids from which to hang our art. The grids that Kris Crimmins was kind enough to borrow from the Tobacco Valley Art Association were great. We do appreciate TVAA's help. Many new ideas about ways in which to better exhibit and hang our art.

The show out in Sturbridge starts in a week and soon we will be into the Summer Concert Series shows in the Barn this year. Although our experience in the brooders was OK last year, the Barn affords up more flexibility and we have much less competition from inflatable slides and vans and kids throwing footballs, frisbees, and baseballs. We did have a chance to brood, but the Barn is better and with less brooding.

One thing I keep forgetting to mention is for you all to bring the art things you no longer need or use to our meetings. Leave them on the tables in the rear of the room and maybe they can help someone else. This also goes for magazines and books. I've been bringing some of my old American Art Reviews, Artist, American Artist, and other magazines and they do go fast. Don't use this as an excuse to get rid of junk, but rather things others can use.

Our Hospitality for the meetings is so good. I appreciate the work of everyone who's been helping out here. This aspect of our organization makes for such pleasant evenings.

As you may know, we have tightened up on our membership durations, in that if you have not reenlisted by the end of May, '09, you will be removed from the member list and cannot participate in any shows or events until you renew. This is to simplify our membership work. We are all adults, more or less, and cannot expect that the league continues to remind us for months.

We have decided to continue the Social Art at the Senior Center. This is to be every other Wednesday from around 12:30 or 1:00 pm to around 3 pm. This coming Wednesday will be a Social Art day. If you've never been, and I know most of you have not, give it a try. It is not a meeting, there is no admission fee, and there will be no quizzes. It's just a time to get together and talk about art. Bring some of your materials and paint or draw or whatever it is you do or might want to do. This is a great chance to explore new techniques, to share some of your knowledge with others, or maybe solve some problems. It is non-threatening. A few sessions ago, I was trying to figure out how I was going to do my Dry Brush demo. Didn't get that together very well, but did manage to cover myself with a lot of Titanium White.

This is about it for now. I want to extend my thanks to those who have helped with our exhibits and those who have exhibited. It is nice to be with you all. We have a good group and I'm proud to be part of it.

Frank W. Tencza, President
Wilbraham Art League

Upcoming Events

- June 2 Board Meeting, Senior Center, 7 P.M.
- June 7 Sturbridge Coffee House, hang 1 P.M.
- June 9 General Meeting, Senior Center, Jerry Wilson - demo, 6:30 P.M.
- June 13 Plein Air, Main St., Meet at Crane Park, 9 A.M.
- June 19 Plein Air, Stanley Park, Westfield, 9 A.M.
- June 30 Sturbridge Coffee House, take down artwork 1-3 P.M.
- June 30 Plein Air, Farmers Market, Trinity Methodist Church, 9 A.M.

- July 2 Fountain Park Concert #1, hang 4:30 P.M., take down 8:30 P.M.
- July 9 Plein Air, Bridge of Flowers, Shelburne Falls, MA, 9 A.M.
- July 9 Fountain Park Concert #2 , hang 4:30 P.M., take down 8:30 P.M.
- July 12 Atheneum Society Art & Garden Open House, 1-4 P.M.
- July 14 Plein Air, Marguerite's Garden, Wilb. 9 A.M.
- July 16 Fountain Park Concert #3, hang 4:30 P.M., take down 8:30 P.M.
- July 23 Fountain Park Concert #4, hang 4:30 P.M., take down 8:30 P.M.
- July 25 Plein Air, Emily Dickinson homestead, Amherst 9 A.M.
- July 30 Fountain Park Concert #5, hang 4:30 P.M., take down 8:30 P.M.

- August 4 Plein Air, Hampden Chapel/Bilton's Stand, 9 A.M.
- August 15 Plein Air, Forest Park/Ponds, 9 A.M.
- August 21, 22, 23 Peach Festival Exhibit (our participation is pending)
- August 25 Plein Air, Oxbow/private property, 9 A.M.

- September 1 Board Meeting, Senior Center, 7 P.M.

Please note there are no general or board meetings in July or August

STURBRIDGE COFFEE HOUSE

479 Brimfield Road (Route 20), Sturbridge MA

June 7-30

Persons who signed up will exhibit at the Sturbridge Coffee House in June. Members are urged to **call Caryl MacLeod** with any issues. Please **do not call Pia**, the owner. Artists have signed up for this event by May 12.

Works of Art: Two works could be submitted per person no larger than 16" x 20", including the frame, framed with wire on the back. All works must be "For Sale." Checks will be made out to the Wilbraham Art League, 15% of the sale price goes to the coffee house. Ten percent goes to WAL for a total of 25% total. Price your pieces accordingly. The remainder will go to the artist. The coffee house will also accept credit cards.

Hanging: Sunday, June 7 at 1 pm. If you can't make that time, ask another person to bring your work. Also bring hanging equipment such as hammer and nails.

Takedown: June 30th between 1 and 3 pm.

About 35 paintings can be hung. Angela Egerton has prepared art tags with the information that the artists provided to Caryl McLeod.

Summer Concert Series Exhibits

The series is held on Thursday nights in July at Fountain Park, Tinkham Road, Wilbraham. Hanging at the barn starts at 4:30 P.M. and pick up is at 8:30 P.M. sharp. Please bring: your pieces, hammer, nails and art tags. We will need some people to stay and keep an eye on paintings, as well as be willing to sell paintings. A few items that help make the area look its best are: a table and chairs in order to make sales, flowers for the table, a cloth and maybe some cookies. Any items that you bring are appreciated and add to the welcoming look of the evening. Artists that stay are asked to dress casual/professional.

ATHENEUM SOCIETY Wilbraham Art and Garden Open House

450 Main Street Wilbraham wilbrahamatheneum.org

This Open House event on July 12th from 1-4 pm will have a Wilbraham & Garden Art theme. The ASW is looking for artwork depicting gardens or Wilbraham scenes.

Although we have a lot of hanging space and mantels and shelves, it would help to bring some easels. Weather permitting, they are open to having plein air artists outside (or even in the porch or Hearse House), and perhaps showing some art in the Hearse House (with the hearse being removed). As with a usual show, we will need people to sit with the art and be available to handle sales. Ten percent of sales will go to ASW. More details will follow.

WAL website: The address is www.wilbrahamartleague.org. Keep watching the website for updates on the league. We have member news, a calendar, and exhibit info. We also have a list of artists. Each artist's name can be a link to his/her individual page with an artist's profile, email address, website address, and/or a small sample of their work (up to 3 digital photos no larger than 400 X 400 pixels). Just **send the info to Lucy**, our website administrator, by emailing webmaster@wilbrahamartleague.org.

Art at the Wilbraham Library

June..... Teen Art
July..... Paul Bloomfield
August.....D. John McCarthy



Frank Tencza painted a beautiful sailboat in acrylic paints. It was auctioned off at our general meeting in April. Ann Carver was the very lucky winner!

PLEIN AIR PAINTING

For most of our plein air locations, we will meet at and carpool from Crane Park, just off Main Street, Wilbraham, near the library. We usually meet at 9 A.M.

As is customary, you should bring the tools of your trade, plus a chair, water and bug spray. We often find a restaurant nearby afterwards. You are welcome to bring a lunch to the site. **Please mark your calendar and also make sure to contact Sue Tosh if you are planning to attend.**

June 13, Main Street Wilbraham, choice of: Academy, Hearse House, Village Café, the Grange, or Rice's, meet at 9 A.M. at Crane Park

June 19 Stanley Park, Westfield, MA., Park inside the main entry of Western Ave. at the Chinese Garden Tea House which is opposite the tennis courts, near the entrance.

June 30 Farmers Market/ Trinity Methodist Church, Sumner Ave., Spfld. Opens at 11 A.M. meet at 10:30 A.M. at Crane Park.

July 9 Bridge of Flowers, Shelburne Falls, meet at Crane Park, 9 A.M.

July 14 Marguerite's Garden, Crane Hill Rd., Wilb., meet at Crane Park, 9 A.M.

July 25 Emily Dickinson Homestead, Amherst, meet at Crane Park, 9 A.M.

August 4 Hampden Chapel/Bilton's Garden Stand, meet at Crane Park, 9 A.M. Sue will meet at the site this time.

August 15 Forest Park, ponds, meet at Crane Park, 9 A.M., Sue will meet at site this time.

August 25 Oxbow view from a private property, meet at Crane Park, 9 A.M.

SOCIAL ART

Social Art is ongoing throughout the summer. Artists of any medium will meet to socialize and work on their projects. It is fun to talk with others and share information with each other. **It will be held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Wilbraham Senior Center from 1 PM to 3 PM.** Stop in and join the group!

Bookmarks for Friends of the Wilbraham Library

The Friends of the Library are in favor of selling bookmarks that have been created by the artists of WAL. The price will be one dollar each. Funds raised will go to the Friends of the Library. Members can donate 2" by 6" bookmarks using light cardstock that will be laminated by the Wilbraham Library. There are samples of bookmarks at the circulation desk in the library. Kris Crimmins suggested making sets of 6 bookmarks for laminating purposes. Bookmarks can be left at the circulation desk in an envelope with Heidi Kane's name on them. Thank you for your support.

Hospitality

June - Vickie Fritz and Patti-Gayle Newman

* Each person is asked to bring a plate of goodies and one soda or juice and half and half creamer, put coffee on and check to see if the supply box needs anything, and if so purchase what is needed (paper cups etc.) and the treasurer will reimburse that member for paper products. If for some reason you can't be there that evening, please contact another member to take your place or trade places.



Baystate Art Show

Our Baystate Medical Center Art Show was a success. We sold two paintings and one photograph. Thank you to all the artists who participated, and congratulations to those who sold pieces.

We were also told that there were many favorable comments about how nice the show was. As well, we have been invited to come back next year. A call has been made to set up the time for next year. More information to come on next year's show.

Wilbraham Gazebo Park Garden and Art Sale

Ann Carver and Frank Tencza sold artwork, and Kris Crimmins sold note cards. Congratulations to our talented artists!



Affirmations for Artists by Eric Maisel submitted by Janis Gustafson

“No Art was ever less spontaneous than mine. What I do is the result of reflection and study.” **Edgar Degas**

“ The further I go, the sorrier I am about how little I know: it is this that bothers me the most.” **Claude Monet**

“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.” **Pablo Picasso**

“Every time I paint a portrait I lose a friend” **John Singer Sargent**

“It seems to me that when I see nature I see it ready-made, completely written – but then, try to do it!” **Claude Monet**

**Enjoy the
Summer!**