



Sharing the Harvest of Your Labor *by Darrel Reese*

Yellow school buses dart back and forth across the landscape ferrying not just our children into school, but also the warm palette of changing colors for the season. In a matter of weeks our lush green surroundings will predictably transform into those anticipated bright yellows, fiery oranges, deep reds, and leathery browns, mixed with evergreens and clusters of berries. Where once the orchestra of frogs, crickets and cicadas harmonized, all will become silent, pierced only by the coo of the mourning dove or the howl of the wind.

Historically, the time from late summer through fall is a time of harvesting our bounties and preparing for winter. People will take inventory of what needs to be stored away until warmer months return. More will finish repairs or improvements aimed at keeping the cold and other uninvited guests out of their homes. Some of us, out of a tradition passed on through the years, will restock our pantries and cupboards.

The PAL is also taking inventory, checking our stock. As we glance around our upstairs walls, things look pretty bleak. Everyone insists that our walls should have more artwork for visitors and students to see, to make a better presentation of our membership and skilled community. Area businesses continue to ask us to put exhibits in their halls and on their walls. The PAL needs your artwork, and your commitment to display it at places including the Village Hall, library, the new Township building, and more.

Here is a simple plan we have come up with, to make it easy for everyone:

ArtShare Night - We're starting the year off with the opportunity to share your art with everyone! Artist members should try to bring a piece of art to the member meeting for everyone to see, talk about, and enjoy. The artwork can then be left behind at the gallery, for continual display for the next six months or so. Members not sharing art can come share in the evening and support the artists participating.

Featured Artist Exhibits - One person shows, or at the most a select few artists, featured at locations around the town. Best suited for artist members that can provide anywhere from three to twelve pieces. Throughout the year, artwork can be rotated from business to business to keep the exhibits fresh at each location. Plan on artwork being displayed from one to several months.

Member Gallery - As a rare opportunity for any art league, we actually have our own space to display our members' talents, and it doubles at insuring your presence by giving us access to art for our scheduled exhibits or anything else that pops up. The PAL gallery walls will feature artwork from artist members of all skill levels. In this space, artists can rotate pieces at their convenience, and we encourage you to keep the display fresh.

Members that consider themselves artists should easily have some art available for displaying your interests and skills. If not, then at the least make a list of a few pieces that you can share with us, maybe even take a some snapshots of those pieces, and submit to us the list (or labeled snapshots). When we are in need of artwork for our exhibits, we can call you for one or all of them. Furthermore, only those artists that exhibit with us will be asked to represent the PAL at special invitation shows not set-up by PAL (i.e., the Best of the Best by the AFA).

We understand that not all artists want to sell their artwork, and additionally, the PAL doesn't want to get into the business of selling it. What we want to do is provide artists with access for displaying their artwork in public areas. For those artists that want to sell, we hope these opportunities generate business, too. Consider it free advertising, and it only gets better as more members participate!

By creating exhibits and other displaying opportunities around the Plainfield area, the Plainfield Art League is fulfilling part of its mission to artists and the community. Our success depends on your involvement. Everyone is invited to come to our September meeting featuring a presentation on basics of giclee printing, and bring a piece or two of your artwork for sharing. If you can't make the meeting or transport your art to the gallery, let us know and we'll make other arrangements. We leave it up to you what you can share with us, but it must be suited for displaying (framed, mounted, etc.).

Upcoming Events:

August 26

Joliet Art in the Park at Inwood Park.

September 16-17

Plainfield HarvestFest, downtown Plainfield.
Stop by or help out at the PAL booth!

October 7-8

Plainfield OktoberFest, Settlers Park. From 12:00-6:00pm Sunday, stop by the PAL tent to see some art or paint a pumpkin!

Look Inside for Info on:

2006-07 Programs

Edwards Hospital Artists Selected

Christmas Contest

I DON'T LIKE TO SAY I HAVE GIVEN MY LIFE TO ART.

I PREFER TO SAY ART HAS GIVEN ME MY LIFE.

-Henry Moore

The Mission of the Plainfield Art League is to promote interest, knowledge, support and participation in the cultural and fine arts throughout the greater Plainfield area.

Board of Directors

Leanne Harris
Dick Splant
Marge Schlekeway
Darrel Reese

President

Dick Splant

Vice President

Darrel Reese

Treasurer

Amy Langoni

Advertising/Publicity Coordinator

Darrel Reese

Art Class Coordinator

Marge Schlekeway

Art Shows/Events Coordinator

Dick Splant

Membership Chairpeson

Leanne Harris

Newsletter Editor

Darrel Reese

Programs Coordinator

Darrel Reese

Webmaster

Sandy Shucks

The Plainfield Art League (PAL) is a nonprofit organization, filed under IRS Section 501(c)(3). All donations to our organization are tax deductible.

PAL is partially funded through a grant from the Village of Plainfield.

The Plainfield Perspective is the newsletter of the Plainfield Art League. Any submissions or inquiries should be made via email or regular post.

Contact Us



Plainfield Art League
519 1/2 West Lockport Street
Plainfield, IL 60544

Office Tel:(815)436-4351

Email: PlainfieldArtLeague@gmail.com
http://www.plainfieldartleague.bct.com

2006-07 PAL Program Schedule

Board Meetings: The Board of Directors meets the first Wednesday of every month in the upstairs PAL Art School & Gallery. The meeting starts around 6:45 pm. The meeting is open to members, and those attending arer encouraged to participate if they choose to.

Member Meetings: Member programs are usually in the lower level of the Plainfield Public Library (unless otherwise stated). An elevator is available in the library's front lobby for those that prefer not to use the stairs. From 6:30 to 6:45pm, there is a brief social and hospitality period, and the program starts around 6:45 and may last up to 8:45 pm.

Schedule below is only a guideline. PAL reserves the right to change the programs at any time.

September 13

ArtShare Night with "The Facts about Giclee" by Adam Brown. Bring in your art for PAL exhibits this year, or at least come to see what our other members have been up to. Adam Brown, owner of Osio-Brown Editions in Elmhurst, will discuss with you the facts and myths behind giclee printing, and answer questions about the process.

October 11

Studio Walk at PAL Member Tita Brady's home studio. Always wanted to see a professional art studio? Or see how one of your peers works? Then come by Tita's place, as she walks us through her inspiring studio. The address is 3400 Westridge Rd, Joliet, 60431 Directions: From corner of Essington Road and Black Road, go west on Black Rd., turn left onto Timberline Dr. (fourth inlet to your left), and look for Westridge (third street leading to your right). Want to car pool? Let us know, and we'll see what we can arrange.

November 8

"Illustrators of Joliet's Gerlach-Barklow Company," by Tim Smith. In the early 1900's Joliet was renown worldwide for making the best calendars, via the Gerlach-Barklow Company, who hired only the best illustrators of the time. Tim Smith will provide some historical background on this company and some of its most famous and controversial illustrators, complete with artwork! Catch a glimpse at www.adelaidehiebel.com or www.cityofjoliet.com/halloffame/artists/adelaidehiebel.htm.

December 13

No program-Enjoy Your Holidays!

January 10

Pastel Demonstration by Carol Baumrucker. Carol joins us to demonstrate her techniques for painting with soft pastels and vibrant colors. She has received numerous awards for her stunning works in pastel and watercolor, consisting of romantic landscapes and ornate florals. See Carol's work online at www.napervilleartleague.com/gallery.

February 14

Books for Chocolates: Tonight you can donate some of your Art Books/ References for a future PAL Art Library, to share with our students and members. No books to donate? Then bring in some needed supplies or a replacement piece of artwork for exhibiting. In return, we'll share a sweet reward...it is Valentine's Day after all! We're planning for an additional guest demonstration or presentation, to be determined at a later date.

March 14

Watercolor Demonstration by Suzanne Hetzel. Suzanne is not only a member of the Kendall Artist Guild, but the President, and she paints beautiful watercolors evoking a simplicity true to the medium, yet technically challenging, and not overworked. Visit www.dragonflywatercolors.com to see her unique style.

April 11

Colored Pencil Demonstration with Phyllis DeSio. Phyllis' philosophy is simply "the best way to create art is to paint what you love." She pulls her subject matter from those things closest to her heart, and nurtures her art to perfection. Her award-winning style and work can be seen in the online galleries at the www.lagrangeartleague.org and also www.opal-art.com.

May 9

Bill and Nancy Uznanski, of Uznanski Creations, are professional photographers with plenty of experience capturing the special moments of life. This evening they will be presenting an interesting and entertaining program related to art and photography.

June 13

Member Night Out/ Recognition Night. Join us at a local establishment as we relax and thank those that helped us make it through the year. Location to be determined ata later date.

PAL Members Get Healthy Exhibit

Edwards Hospital chose the Plainfield Art League Members Courtney Weed and Robert Gonda as local artists exhibiting at the Edward Outpatient Center, opening August 28th. The facility will be celebrating its grand opening on August 26th, and everyone is invited to check out the facility and the art. Thanks goes out to all members who expressed an interest in this opportunity, and to member Leanne Harris for snagging this chance for PAL artists. Congratulations, Courtney and Bob!

PAL Hosts AFA Meeting

The Alliance of Fine Arts is coming to town on Tuesday, October 3, and will be conducting their standard meeting in the lower level of the Plainfield Public Library. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm, and lasts about an hour. Everyone is welcome to attend. This is an effort to show more members of the affiliated leagues what the AFA does.

The AFA is made up of approximately 12 other suburban art leagues. They hold board meetings seven months out of the year, and these meetings are open to the officers and delegates from each of the participating art leagues. The agenda usually includes several items that would interest every art league and how they might want to handle art shows, artist training, and regular business.

PAL needs a delegate or two to attend the AFA meetings. Delegates need only be present to provide a means of relaying important information back to the art league and its members. Meetings are the first Tuesday of the months of September, October, November, February, March, April and May.

Pumpkin Up the Volume

Oktoberfest is back for its third year! Join Plainfield as it celebrates German heritage at Settlers Park the weekend of October 7-8. Family activities will be available in addition to food, beer, and Polka music, so come on down and help rock the haus! Saturday night there will be brew and music, 7:00-10:00pm. Sunday, the fest is from 12:00 to 6:00, and PAL will provide a pumpkin painting booth to compliment the Jaycees' pumpkin patch. The PAL booth will also display member fine arts and crafts. Artists interested in displaying should contact PAL's Leanne Harris, (815) 577-0342. Volunteers are still needed, if only for a couple of hours. Sponsors are also still needed, and can easily sign-up by going to www.plainfield-oktoberfest.com.

PAL Decks the Hall

The bells are ring-ting-tingling this year for all those junior artists out there as the Plainfield Art League presents its first Christmas Ornament Contest. Winning ornaments will be on display at the Village Hall this winter. Students at any of Plainfield's middle schools (home schoolers included), in grade levels 6-8, are invited to create an original ornament and compete for top honors. The emphasis is on originality and creativity. Traditional ornaments (i.e., round globes) can be painted or decorated, but the ornament entry should not be recognized as something purchased or left unaltered. Please do not submit manufactured kits or collectables. Applications will be available at the schools, library, PAL Art School & Gallery, and on our website at www.plainfieldartleague.bct.com.

PAL's 2006 Christmas Ornament Contest

Participation open to students of Plainfield's middle schools (grades 6-8).

Awards:

First Place, Second Place, Third Place, and a number of Honorable Mentions.

Contest Rules:

1. It has to be original - a product of your creativity and work! Traditional ornaments (i.e., round globes) can be painted or decorated, but the ornament entry must not be recognizable as a purchased product, collectable or retail kit.
2. Ornaments must fit inside a 5"x5"x5" box, and weigh less than 10 oz.
3. All ornaments must be able to hang from an evergreen tree by either a hook or lanyard.
4. Only One (1) Entry per Artist! Deadline to enter is November 4th, 2006.

So get busy, and don't forget to fill out the application to submit it along with your entry!

All ornaments and applications must be submitted to the PAL School by or on Saturday, November 4th. PAL assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged ornaments. Winners will be told by phone after all ornaments are judged. Winning ornaments will be displayed at the Village Hall as will a select number of other ornaments, depending on the number of entries received. When the tree is dismantled, entrants will be notified by phone to pick up their ornaments at that time. If ornaments are not picked up, they will be thrown away!

Application (Please Print):

Student Name Tel #

School Grade Teacher Name

Anything special about your ornament? Write brief description on a piece of paper or index card, and attach it to your application.

By entering the contest, you grant permission to the Plainfield Art League to use your name, ornament entry, and any image of you and/or your ornament for marketing and publicity purposes in regards to the contest or any future contests. You also will not hold PAL responsible for any lost or damaged ornaments.

Guardian Name (Printed) & Signature

Ornament Tag

Student Name Tel #

School Grade Teacher Name



519 1/2 West Lockport Street
Plainfield, IL 60544

Register Now!

Fall art classes will be starting soon!

Session One (F1) begins week of September 11th

Session Two (F2) begins week of October 30th

For more information on classes (or teaching one), please contact our Art Class Coordinator, Marjorie Schlekeway at (815) 735-0726, or President Dick Splant at (708) 466-1711.

EVERY PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS.

*Let Your Inner Artist Speak Out...
Sign Up for an Art Class Today!*

