My Spot

Anni Matsick

The continued cold weather and snow has kept us inside our studios much of the time this winter season – and it shows! Check out the variety of work members have been producing since last issue, and see whose is getting national exposure, on page 2!

Plan to venture out for this year’s first Business of Illustration meeting, to go behind the doors of a local printmaking studio. The tour will be led by a member who recently completed a large project at the facility, reported on in January’s Spotlight. See details on page 3.

This month’s Spotlight subject spent some of his winter hours generating ideas for a heart-warming May event, covered on page 4.

Stay connected by renewing your membership dues by March 1. Details are right above the Member Benefits booklet link which lists in detail the many reasons we all love being part of PSI.

Road Runners

John Ritter created this 22x24 Poster for the Antique Motorcycle Club of America. It is part of a promotional package for a national antique bike event in Elkins, West Virginia which will be held in September.

Have a Heart

John Hinderliter's 16x20 oil painting will hang in a doctor's office.

Financial Picture

For Money magazine’s Intelligent Investor, Taylor Callery illustrated a new take on momentum, suggesting to ride last year’s second best performing investment group.
MEMBER NEWS

On Exhibit

“Down the Gutter” is an 18x24 acrylic on canvas, by Danielle Amiano. The piece was on display at The Night Gallery in Lawrenceville on February 16, for their Valentine’s Sideshow Extravaganza and Carnival show. The gallery owner found Danielle’s artist profile on Facebook and invited her to show the piece.

“Princess,” a watercolor by Anni Matsick, won 1st Place in Other Media in the Richeson 75 Small Works 2014 exhibit, on display at the Richeson Gallery in Kimberly, Wisconsin January 24 through March 8. Juror for prizes was James Gurney, author/illustrator of Dinotopia. He wrote, “Here’s a really fine characterization of a spunky imaginative girl. The polka dot theme running through the costume, the slightly mussed up hair, the hands on the hips, and the expression of her mouth, all make her look like she could take on anything. Anni Matsick has done a great job of simplifying the background and the overall color palette to make a statement.” The prize was $1000 in Richeson art materials.

Fifteen works by Jack Puglisi will be displayed at the Mt. Lebanon Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd, during the month of February. Jack is a pen & ink artist who specializes in the technique of pointillism, a meticulous method of drawing a picture by combining many thousands of hand placed dots of ink. Different colors are created by the juxtaposition and spacing of colors next to each other to create varying shades and tones. A “meet the artist” reception was held February 17.

“Chess Pieces, Number 1” by Joe Winkler is an 8x10 oil painting. It will be part of a solo exhibit through the month of March at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library.

Kudos

Anne Trimble’s pastel piece, “Sunday Morning,” a portrait of her father, was selected to appear in the upcoming Northlight book, Art Journey: People, due for publication in December. The book is part of a series in which each artist is given a two-page spread presenting their piece and an artist statement (see Art Journey America: Landscapes). “Last fall, I entered a few digital images for The Artist’s Magazine Over 60 contest,” Anne reports. “They said they received so much excellent portrait work in the contest that they decided to publish a North Light book devoted solely to portrait art. I’m one of the 104 artists they selected to participate. They sent a questionnaire with several questions about our art/ technique/ subject. Our answers will be used to write the text on our respective spreads.” Anne’s contact for the book is Kristin Conlin (Managing Editor/ Content Development) of North Light Books.

Ron Thurston’s paintings are the subject of an 8-page feature, “The Accidental Colorist,” written by Michelle Taute, in the April issue of Watercolor Artist magazine. “Very Pittsburgh,” a 24x18 watercolor on paper, shows a threatening sky above the ladies waiting for the bus. You can purchase the issue online and watch a video preview which includes a slideshow of Ron’s work.

Out and About

The Chalk Outlines, with vocalist Wayno (center) and drummer Dave Klug (in the hat) will perform at the Pittsburgh Winery in the Strip District on Saturday, May 17.

Relocating

James Elston has accepted a job as a storyboard revisionist for Big Idea Productions in Nashville, Tennessee. The job began on February 18 and he will be working on a new VeggieTales project. He’ll return to help his wife, Beth, and their five children make the move from Johnstown. James wrote, “I have enjoyed being part of PSI, although I have not been able to make it out to Pittsburgh nearly as often as I would have liked to.” This self portrait by James was done with Photoshop, Wacom Intuous and Webcam.
Annual Dues Reminder

PSI membership is due for renewal. Avoid a reinstatement fee and removal of your online portfolio from the PSI website by making a prompt payment.

PSI is pleased to provide two options for renewing your annual dues by MARCH 1, 2014

- PayPal assures convenient and secure transactions. Just click the RENEW MEMBER DUES link on the PSI website homepage, then select the appropriate BUY NOW button.
- Mail a check or money order for $75.00 payable to “Pittsburgh Society of Illustrators” to:
  Gina Antognoli, Treasurer
  Pittsburgh Society of Illustrators
  439 Lark Tree Circle
  Bridgeville, PA 15017

LAST CHANCE!
A $25 reinstatement fee will be assessed after March 1, 2014

Your renewal payment will keep your membership status active through December 31, 2014. Please note, PSI is no longer printing member cards. Anyone requiring proof of current membership should contact Gina at antognolistudio@gmail.com.

Handy PSI Reference

An updated Member Benefits and Responsibilities handbook is available for printout, trim and assembly to use as a convenient reference. Find it on PSI’s website.

Call for illustration

Oil City’s Graffiti Gallery in the historic National Transit Building has been building an audience over the last three to four years, showing a wide variety of artwork. John Manders is on the managing committee and they’re looking for work to include in an April/May illustration exhibit. Their shows run for five weeks and the opening receptions are well-attended. John is inviting only PSI members to submit work. There will be a $15.00 hanging fee per artist. John would love to show both the original piece and its published version. He will need your work by end of March.

Please contact him if you are interested at John@johnmanders.com or 412-400-8231. For more info about the gallery, click here or here.

The Business of Illustration Meeting

Friday, February 28
7:30 pm
Artists Image Resource (AIR)
518 Foreland Street,
Pittsburgh 15212

Featured Artist:
John Ritter
John will provide a tour of the AIR printmaking studio, with artists’ work in progress.

PSI Worked For...

Amanda Zimmerman

Amanda was contacted by a client for a very quick turn around on a small personal commission piece. The client chose Amanda based on work posted in her gallery on the PSI website. Her seahorse images were specifically of interest. “It was a challenge for me as I have never worked on such a tight deadline – basically had one day to complete the art before it had to be sent overnight,” Amanda says. “I’m very happy with the colors and mood of the piece.”

NEXT PSI SOCIAL

Tuesday, March 4
Beginning at 6:30 pm
Church Brew Works,
3525 Liberty Avenue, Strip District
Free parking! Free appetizers!
Spotlight on...
George Schill

George’s image perfectly depicts this year’s Persad Change of Heart Art Auction theme.

George was contacted by designer Joe Ruesch from the Persad Center in Pittsburgh, asking him to create an image for an invitation and collateral materials for their 26th Annual Art Auction which benefits the Free Care Fund for the LGBTQ community. The theme for this year’s event is Change of He(art), and Joe indicated that he wanted a fun image showing artists transforming a heart, that celebrated the occasion.

“I worked out a few ideas and sent them as quick color pegs,” George recalls. “Normally, I send small doodles for situations, but in this case I felt that showing tighter color roughs would help give a feel of the style I would be using for the final art. I also included a few concepts with a more serious tone, even though I knew Joe wasn’t looking for that approach. Sometimes I will do this for certain clients with hopes that it will plant a seed for future work. In this case, Joe liked several that may be appropriate for fundraising projects down the road.

Joe and I originally liked the heart frame held over the bands of color, but agreed that rainbow themes may be overused, so he decided to go with the framed artwork forming a heart. At Joe’s suggestion, the outer frames were smoothed out so the image read faster. The final art was created in Photoshop.*

Persad describes their Annual Art Auction as a night to meet, mingle and network with LGBTQ friends and allies, and peruse galleries of amazing art. Artists who donated art were given complimentary tickets to the Auction and Patron Party. The 26th Annual Art Auction will take place at the Persad Center at 5151 Penn Avenue on Monday, May 12. The Underwriters Circle Event and Patron Party is set for Thursday, April 10.

More exciting details about this year’s event, including ticket sales, will be announced soon on their website.

More of George’s work can be seen on his website.

*15% DISCOUNT on all dental work for PSI members without dental insurance

Dr. Jay M. Feuer
Family Dentistry
3035 Washington Road, Suite 3, McMurray, PA 15317
724-941-2200 www.drfeuer.com

Life Drawing at Panza Gallery

 Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm $10
Coffee, pastries & drinks served.
Enter basement gallery on left side of building.
More information on Panza website.

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Self Sufficient Package $499*
*plus $125 hosting fee
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ArtistCraftsman.com

SAVE 10%* with FREE Utrecht ArtSmart Card

Utrecht Art Supply
1930 East Carson Street, Southside
412.432.1945
UtrechtArt.com

* Discount can not be combined with any other offer, does not apply to clearance or sale items, Gift cards, BEST BUYS, Furniture, Lighting, and items designated as nondiscountable.

More of George’s work can be seen on his website.
1. This serene panel from Vince Dorse's online comic, Untold Tales of Bigfoot, reveals none of the cliff-hanging adventure found in recent installments. Sign up for weekly updates and enjoy some nail-biting fun!

2. Vince did this spot for the Pittsburgh City Paper.

3. "I started illustrating this in 2003 but the project got sidetracked," says Loran J. Skinkis about his comic. "A lot of things have happened since then, Burgh Man left town for a few years and I changed jobs a couple of times. When Burgh Man returned to the 'Burgh we met and decided to finish this issue and keep making more! I'm really glad to be able to finish it and get it out to the world. We have some great ideas coming up so stay tuned!" Visit Burgh Man's new and improved website for more details about Pittsburgh's masked hero!

4. Here's a cover Phil Wilson recently completed for a book being written by a survivor of the 2004 Tsunami in India.

5. Charles Kibby won Sarah Miller's raffle last October and got a solid six hours of work in on a Hellboy tattoo at the 2014 Philadelphia Tattoo Arts Convention held January 31-February 2.

6. Here's a piece John Manders created for the Oil City Public Library, to celebrate the Charlie Chaplin centennial. John adds, "In 1914 Charlie signed his first movie contract with Mack Sennett right here in Oil City (just a couple of doors up from where I'm sitting, actually)."

7. Wayno's Kelly's image is a design for a silkscreen print. He also did a full color version for advertising posters and a black & white version for t-shirts.

8. PittGirl is Wayno's regular spot in Pittsburgh Magazine. He has been illustrating the PittGirl column since the January 2012 issue.

9. Wayno recently issued his 11th annual Chinese New Year card.

10. Here is Ilene Winn-Lederer's latest Kickstarter update.
11. In Taylor Callery’s piece for The Wall Street Journal, February Best Buys include items such as last minute travel, jewelry, perfume, tax software, and canned goods.

12. Taylor’s art for the Washington Post cover on Capital Business is about how new regulations are affecting banks and other firms in the area.

13. This raccoon is a logo John Hinderliter designed for an annual orienteering event at Raccoon Creek State Park.

14. “Fawn” is John’s latest painting, oil on a 12x24 panel.

15. “Here’s a new picture book idea that I’m in the beginning stages of,” says Nora Thompson, “showing character development sketches and a color study that I did for it.”

16. These 3D images were done for Universal Electric Corporation by Kurt Pfaff. They needed an image for their trade show booth showing their equipment in use in a data repair/workshop setting. “The image with the drill was the first round and then they had me change it to the other image,” Kurt says.

17. “Red Shoes” is first in a series of paintings Kurt is working on. He says, “I’ve the set for the next painting ready to take some photographs. The next one coming up will be more surreal, should be interesting. Either way, no matter what comes of this, I’m going to have fun.”

18. “Freezing Bubbles” was done by Mark Brewer for the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

19. Rick Antolic just illustrated this wine label for Fox Hollow Winery, a new establishment in New Jersey. The fox is an 18x24 oil on canvas and the background is from a digital photo Rick took at the Schenley Golf course. “Luckily, I had a snowy landscape to photograph!” he says. “The owner of the winery felt strongly about his choice of the font, but he was okay with me manipulating some of the aspects of the original design he had for the label.”

20. “Poetry” is the latest still life completed by Yelena Lamm.