



Wild Art News

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Spring-Summer 2018



Though Winter seems to want to hang on a little longer than we'd like, we know that Spring is inevitable and thankfully is right around the corner. And nothing says *Spring* is coming like the sight of Red Winged Blackbirds, Robins, and..... of course, hummingbirds.

Enjoy this beautiful Hummingbird video. https://youtu.be/ewdN_BxUOro (thanks to Diana Hunter for sharing this video)

Read about Hummingbird migration, 2018, here.
<https://www.hummingbird-guide.com/hummingbird-migration-spring-2018.html>

The Indiana Audubon Society recommends putting out your feeders on April 1st.

"may my faith always be at the end of the day like a hummingbird...returning to its favorite flower."

~ Sanober Khan

And what about that groundhog/woodchuck/marmot/whistle pig,....Punxsutawney Phil? Whatever you call this furry little creature in your neck of the woods, Phil correctly (unfortunately) predicted the weather correctly this year. Some fun facts you may not know about groundhogs.

- They really aren't meteorologists.
- They can be found in Northwest Indiana, although they are referred to as woodchucks.
- The groundhog is one of 14 species of marmots.
- They are the largest member of the squirrel family. (squirrel? Really?)
- Female groundhogs deliver litters in the spring with about a half dozen babies in a litter.

www.indianawildlifeartists.org

From our President . . .

Isn't it interesting to go to a new place to look for wildlife? That is what happened when I went with the DPI-SIG camera club to Wakodahatchee, FL. Here is Wikipedia's description: "The Wakodahatchee Wetlands is a park located in Delray Beach, Florida. The park was created on 50 acres of unused utility land and transformed into a recreation wetlands open to the public with a three-quarter mile boardwalk that crosses between open water pond areas, emergent marsh areas, shallow shelves, and islands with shrubs and snags to foster nesting and roosting."

We wanted to arrive at Wakodahatchee during the golden hour around sunrise, so we left around 5:30 am from Naples, FL, to cross Florida. Arriving around 7:45 am, we headed for the boardwalk. You should have heard the squawking and the smell of wood storks nesting in trees. Certain trees had multiple nests—maybe 20 nests in one clump of trees. Some of the nests had chicks at various stages of development. It was marvelous to be so close to the birds.

I hope each of you are able to go on a wildlife outing this spring. Also, I am looking forward to our picnic gathering at Jeff and Robin Myers' home in Bloomfield, IN, on Saturday, May 5th plus our day trip on Saturday, June 30th to Decatur, IN, to take the docent-led sculpture tour coordinated by Carole Richardson-Macklin. Hope to see all of you soon!

Diana Hunter, President of the Indiana Wildlife Artists



Photos by Diana Hunter



Member Spotlight

In this issue, we are featuring...

CAROL KEHLER HEMDAL

I am a self-taught artist. I saw a scratchboard demo at an art fair in 1973. With a book from the library, and the total support from Larry, my husband and current IWA treasurer, along with my family, I began my intriguing journey.

I participated in my first art show in the fall of 1973 with a borrowed display set up. Fast forward --- I participated in about 25 art fairs a year for 30 years. I have sold over 3,350 original pieces, and have won numerous ribbons and awards. With the urging of Laura Hill, the founder of Indiana Wildlife Artists, I joined the organization in 1986, soon became Vice-President, advanced to President and then later became President a second time. Joining IWA was one of the best decisions I ever made in helping develop confidence with my art.

Larry and I retired in 2003. I no longer do the art fairs that were dedicated to scratchboard drawings but stay active in my art by participating in exhibits with a limited number of scratchboard drawings. Due to developing arthritis I have changed my primary focus from scratchboard to oil painting which gives me a great satisfaction. I regularly attend a weekly symposium with other oil painting artists in our area led by Susan Young, a very accomplished nationally known artist, which keeps me actively creating.

My art was never a job but PURE PLEASURE.

Below are a few examples of Carol's artwork.



SAVE THE DATES

A reminder of Important IWA dates: Please put these on your calendar.

Saturday May 5, 2018

Indiana Wildlife Artists are planning a pitch-in picnic. You are invited to the lovely home of Robin Myers and her husband, Jeff, in the woods. Robin and Jeff have a nice outdoor deck with seating for us or in case of rain would be inside their home.

Jeff and Robin Myers' Home
2592 E. Kelly Branch Rd.
Bloomfield IN 47424-9731

Saturday, June 30, 2018 Special Sculpture Tour at Decatur, IN with Carole Macklin. Features lunch, outdoor walking tour (or ride in a golf cart IF YOU MAKE RESERVATIONS) of a 6 block sculpture tour and optional ice cream shop.

The date for the Decatur Sculpture Tour is Saturday, June 30, 2018! Please put this special IWA event on your calendar. It will be good to see some of you at this event. If you are bringing extra guests (who are very welcome to come!) please let me know how many and especially if any of them need a reservation for a seat on the golf cart.

When: Please RSVP with all of the dates below that you are available.

Where: The City of Decatur, IN, which is about 30 minutes South (and a little east) from Fort Wayne, IN. From Indianapolis, Decatur, IN, is about 2 hr. 30 minutes North and East. (Decatur is relatively close to the Ohio line.)

Schedule:

11:15 am EDT Dutch Treat at the "Back 40 Junction", 1011 North 13th Street, Decatur, IN 46733-1001. 260 724-3355

(If there are 10 or more attending, they give a 10% off there for the tour, as well. Prices are considered moderate. Look at the website for more info.)

<http://worldfamousback40junction.com/>

1:15 pm - Main Event: Sculpture Walking Tour in Decatur, IN.

Don't want to walk 6 blocks or stand for an hour? Request a free golf cart see below. YOU MUST MAKE A RESERVATION FOR EACH PERSON WANTING TO RIDE IN A GOLF CART. There is no additional charge for the golf cart, but a reservation is REQUIRED.

What will you see? Two or three docents will lead small groups of us over 6 blocks to view about 25 outdoor sculptures. Each year a new group of sculptures chosen from those submitted from around the country will be on display for one year. If you want to see the 2017 sculptures, go to <http://decatursculpturetour.com/> to view them. **Note:** A donation would be appreciated but is not required. The tour is expected to be around one hour in length.

SAVE THE DATES (cont.)

Included free amenities:

There will be a bottle of drinking water provided for each person on tour.
There are restroom facilities available, also.

Optional event: Eat ice cream (Dutch Treat) at The Old 27 Ice Cream Shop, 168 S 2nd St Decatur, IN 46733, <http://theold27icecreamshop.com/> This ice cream shop will provide 10% off their products during the tour. There is outdoor seating there and it is a very pleasant halfway stop or a pleasant end to the tour.

IWA 35rd Annual Exhibit

This year's Annual Exhibit will once again be held at the Second Presbyterian Church, 7700 N. Meridian in Indianapolis. Exhibit dates will be August 26–September 27th.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, June 29, 2018

IWA Exhibit Entry forms are due by 5:00 P.M. Entry Forms for the IWA ANNUAL EXHIBIT MUST BE RECEIVED and samples of artwork from NEW artists MUST BE RECEIVED.

Friday, August 24, 2018 from 3:00-4:30 pm and **Saturday, August 26, 2018**, from 8:00-9:30 am. are the turn in times for the 35th IWA Annual Exhibit in Indianapolis, IN. Artwork cannot be shipped and these are the only dates the artwork will be accepted. Please see the IWA prospectus for details. Hope you are working on your artwork for this!

The [prospectus](#) is available on the IWA website as well as details on the Annual Meeting, hanging of artwork, reception and awards ceremony.

Member news



Polar Bears
Marian Betts



Linda Spencer



Three's Not a Crowd
Bev Garner

Elaine Wolfe was the 2D feature artist at the CCA Gallery, located at 111 West Main, Suite 135, in Carmel, in April. The Feature Show was appropriately titled "Welcome Spring". An artist reception was held on Saturday, April 14th. Congratulations Elaine!

Marian Betts sold a painting last year of a mother polar bear and her cubs. The gentleman who purchased it had taken the original photograph of the bears. When Marian asked if she could create a painting from the photo, he readily agreed. When he saw the finished product, he asked to purchase it. You can see the beautiful painting on the left.

Jeff Kleinfelter and Robin Myers will give a presentation on the Duck Stamp Competition and on Etsy on Saturday, August 25, from 3:00-3:30 pm.

Marvin Groves' presentation at the Cornerstone Center for the Arts in Muncie, entitled "Tanzania Wildlife, Through the Lens," that was featured in the Fall/Winter 2017 Newsletter, was a success. He had the use of their gallery for a month and sold several images during that time. Over the course of the past three months he has presented the Africa program for several other organizations.

Linda Spencer has reported that she still has some back issues to work through, but her back is doing better. She has joined her local gallery again and they are having an auction. Each artist has to paint a chair that will be auctioned. On another side she has managed to finish 4 sculptures and 5 or 6 Watch Dogs, and has started on a 5th sculpture, pastel painting and creating jewelry. You can see some of Linda's work at the left. Linda also sold a green parrot pastel last year. Congratulations Linda!!

Bev Garner exhibited 19 pieces of her artwork at the North Webster Library in the month of March. At the left you will see a colored pencil drawing on hummingbirds on the nest that was on display. Bev also enjoys helping the local art association with the kids' tent at the Village of Winona Art Festival the first weekend in June. One of the activities is to have children paint on rocks. It's one of their most popular tables.

Shari Jardina will have one of her photographs on display at the Indianapolis Art Center's exhibition entitled "Art from the Heartland." The exhibit opens June 22nd and runs through August 8, 2018.

Interesting Reading . . .

Sandhill Crane Migration by Robin Myers

During the first weekend of March, thousands of birders descend upon southern Indiana to see the peak Sandhill Crane and waterfowl migration at Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area in Greene County, Indiana. The annual Marsh Madness festival is a weekend long event, packed with activities including a kick-off banquet, craft fair, live birds of prey on display, informational and educational presentations, bus tours, self-guided tours, kids' activities, and more. I chose to avoid the crowds and ventured out the weekend prior to the festival to get some photos. I was excited to see Trumpeter Swans and millions of Sandhill Cranes. In the photos below, the Sandhill Cranes are tossing sticks in the air. I didn't realize this until I was later looking at my photos and saw sticks flying in the air. I "googled", "do Sandhill Cranes toss sticks in the air?" Apparently, it is part of their mating ritual!



Suggested Reading for Bird Lovers

Are you a bird fanatic? Or maybe just enjoy watching birds at your feeder. These organizations put out newsletters that might be of interest.

[National Audubon Society](#)
[Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#)
[Bird Studies Canada](#)

You might also be interested in Cornell Lab of Ornithology's [eBird](#) website. An absolute wealth of information here for everything bird related.

If you're already into bird counting and are looking for your next "Big Day," you might want to participate in the Cornell Lab's [Global Big Day 2018](#) - May 5, 2018, and join 20,000+ people from more than 160 countries sharing their passion and celebration of birds. Click [here](#) to find out how to participate.

Indiana's Hidden Gem as reported by Evansville Courier & Press USA TODAY NETWORK and shared by IndyStar

There are only three National Wildlife Refuges in Indiana, one of which is the beautiful Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area, You can read more about this hidden gem [here](#).

UPDATE FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN Kris Bontrager

Hello everyone! I am very excited about this year's annual exhibit! I am hard at work on my entry for this year. This will be the first entry for me since 2009 when my Mom passed away. That was tough enough, but then in February 2013, I lost my brother to MAC Lung Disease and in November 2013, I lost my sister to complications from a brain aneurysm. Then in 2015, after finally convincing my Dad to move up here from Florida, we also lost him while undergoing open heart surgery in October of that year. I am the youngest and now only remaining member of my biological family and it has taken its toll. But, I am happy to say, although it took a while, I have pulled myself up out of the hole I was in and I am working on my art once again! It has a new meaning and purpose now and I just want to create whether anyone else thinks it's good or not!

Over my dark times, I have received much needed support from IWA members and I want to send a huge "Thank You" to you all! Thanks for not giving up on me!! 😊

IWA Sale Corner

This is a new feature for the newsletter. The Board agreed to begin including a section in the newsletter where members can sell their art related items, i.e. art supplies, easels, etc. It is not mandatory, but the Board thought it would be a good gesture for the seller to donate a portion of their sales to IWA. again...this is totally up to the seller.

For Sale

Unfinished solid oak frames. Various non-standard sizes. None larger than 13 1/2 x 24 inches inside measurement. \$2.00 each --- over 1,000 available.

Contact: Carol Hemdal
P.O.Box 361
Kouts, IN. 46347
219/766-2102
Scratchwork@frontier.com



Good art is art that allows you to enter it from a variety of angles and to emerge with a variety of views.

Mary Schmich

Every artist dips his brush in his own soul and paints his own nature into his pictures.

Henry Ward Beecher

Indiana Wildlife Artists, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization which promotes the advancement of wildlife art as a fine art, providing wildlife artists an opportunity to meet, to learn and to exhibit. With our artwork we encourage the appreciation and understanding of wildlife among the general public, and assist conservation groups with education for the benefit of wildlife.

Fundraising Ideas

We're always looking for ideas to raise funds for IWA. If you have any ideas on fundraising or experience in this area, please contact one of the board members.



Remember.....

If you have a Facebook page, don't forget to *Like* the IWA page and *Share* it on yours. Also, comments and likes on individual posts go a long way to getting our page recognized by others.

www.facebook.com/indianawildlifeartists

If you have interesting news throughout the year, personal accomplishments, exhibits, etc., please send that information to me along with photos if you have them and I will share them on our page.

As mentioned previously, I would like to change the cover photo every month to feature one of our artist members. If you would like your work featured as the cover photo on IWA's Facebook page, email a photo of your work to me. Don't worry about the size or resolution. Just give me a little background information on your work and I will post it along with the proper credit.

SEEKING NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS: Do you have a talent for writing? Would you like to contribute an article to the next issue? It can be about anything related to the nature and the wildlife art world. Contact me for more information.

shari@wolfmountainimages.com