



WILD ART NEWS

INDIANA WILDLIFE ARTISTS, Inc

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Who's Who and How to Contact Them

President Sara Wilson
jawsaw87@aol.com
317-846-4755

Vice President Marianne Ballenger
mdballenger@mw.net
765-794-0517

Secretary Lois Berg
loisannberg@hotmail.com
219-662-2194

Treasurer Larry Hemdal
Lshymca@netnitco.net
219-766-2102

Asst Secretary Judy VanHoff
vanhoffam@hotmail.com
812-923-8197

Asst Treasurer Laura Hill
ljhill28@yahoo.com
574-834-4238

Exec Assistant Trudy Calvert
tlccreate@aol.com
812-876-9969

V P - North Kris Bontrager
jnkbontrager@comcast.net
574-269-3438

VP - Central Diana Hunter
hunter_diana@sbcglobal.net
317-255-9676

VP - South

www.IndianaWildlifeArtists.org
Diana Hunter - webmaster

Editor Laura Hill
ljhill28@yahoo.com

QUICK QUOTE

An optimist is the human personification of Spring.

_____ Susan Bissonette

Perspective... "What's the Special Judge's Award"?

This question was from a "Letter to the Editor" so we'll reply in this column:

From the beginning of IWA exhibits it was agreed that we didn't want every other piece to have a ribbon hanging on it - we all thought the awards should be special. That's one of the reasons we selected the colors for our ribbons - not the usual blue for First Place and so on. At that time we did offer a Best of Show and there was only one year that we had Honorable Mention. In fact a number of years ago it was agreed that we'd no longer offer Best of Show; it's too difficult (and possibly unfair) to evaluate one medium against another when such very different techniques are involved in the creation.

Our guidelines to the judges require that they must agree on every major award - these are the true merit awards and are the only ones that also receive cash. But because each judge had his/her own area of expertise, each was allowed to select one piece that the other judge didn't necessarily agree with but because he/she was really drawn to that work.

We called it "Judge's Choice" because it is just that (chosen by just one judge who liked it in sort of the same way as "People's Choice" in some shows). In that respect it's not really a merit award - it really is an honor. "People's Choice" is often simply a matter of who can get the most friends and relatives to come out and vote once (or maybe twice). This is seen as recognition by one expert who finds something satisfying in what you (the artist) created.

Thanks for asking :o)

We'll look forward to more questions or comments for future issues.

Pearls of Wisdom

If you ever had chicken pox please read this. The chicken pox virus lives on in your body. If you live long enough the chance that you will develop a condition called shingles is 85% to 90%. It may be relatively mild and be gone in 4 to 6 weeks. Mine started in mid January and is still going strong - strong being the operative word. It is an extremely painful condition that travels along nerves in some part of the body. There is no "cure" - just wait for it to be over. It can go on for a year or more and feels like something trying to eat its way out of your body. There is a vaccine that prevents it from developing. The shot is expensive but then so is the condition, especially if you don't have insurance or have to take time off from work. I lost 25 pounds (not the preferred method), needed home health care and physical therapy and am just now able to resume some activities. Because you are my friends I'd like to save you this trip. Please "Google it" and then check with your doctor if you may be at risk.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

- **Shari Jardina** (Indianapolis) earned a First Place award from the 16th Annual Photography Exhibit at the Kokomo Art Center. The show included 101 entries by thirty-seven photographers in seven categories. Her winning piece is SERENE MOUNTAIN STREAM, a print in the color landscape division. You can enjoy some of her other works on her web page www.wolfmountainimages.com.
- Three photos by **Diana Hunter** (Indianapolis) were on display in February at Artistic Designs Gallery in Brownsburg. The works including CIRCLES from the IWA Annual Exhibit may be viewed on her website www.DianaHunter.com.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Robert J Bryan
7220 N State Road 1
Ossian - IN 46777

EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES

Exhibit Opportunities are for Members Only.
To become a member, please join on our
Home Page.

Opportunities - cont'd

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THE IWA MEMBER DIRECTORY

We mentioned the IWA Directory in the previous issue of Wild Art News but we do realize that some members aren't familiar with it. So we'll go a little more in depth here.

It is a perpetual directory with information about individual members on separate pages. This format allows us to create a page for a new member pretty much right away rather than waiting to put out a list of all the members once during the year. It can be especially useful for preparing press releases, gives information about suppliers and research facilities, and provides artist resumes at our various exhibit facilities.

Each page carries contact information of course but also some background and photos to help put a face with the artwork and/or activities associated with that person. Individual member pages may be updated on a five-year cycle; in between the newsletter carries changes and new information.

Your page is prepared using the information from the membership application and your own promotional materials. You may provide the photo/s. When it's time to update you simply make changes on the page from your own directory and send it to IWA.

Now - if your membership is current and your IWA entry year ends in '0 or '5 or if you've never had a page - we are ready to publish yours. In 2011 we will update listings for entry years ending in '1 or '6. Please contact [Laura ljhill28@yahoo.com](mailto:ljhill28@yahoo.com). We will get back to you if we need any information.

Resource pages will be sent automatically once you get started. As individual member's pages are completed we will provide a list of available names so you will be able to download and print your directory. We'll handle the details and publish it on line for you to print out. It is designed to fit in a standard three-ring binder.

BOARD MEETING

We are advised that the next meeting of the Executive Board will be in May at Indianapolis. Details will be forthcoming.

CHAPTER NEWS

The Northern Chapter met on Saturday, March 20 in Warsaw. Six chapter members and three guests were present. Kris Bontrager presided; Bev Garner recorded the minutes.

Old Business:

- Jeff Klinefelter reported that changes at Potawatomi Wildlife Park include a new pavilion that is available to rent. There is no entry fee to the park and there are nice hiking trails for photo ops. He noted that the Plein Air Painters are setting up at the park in the fall - it could be a good time to plan an IWA activity there.
- There was good discussion on the subject of student mentoring originally suggested by President Mark Wick in 1999 and might help launch the new student category for IWA membership. This could also be in line with inclusion of student member work with the Annual Exhibit. We have approval of the Honeywell Center's Board of Directors.

New Business

- There was mention of changing the dates for the Annual Exhibit. This had been discussed with Honeywell in 2008 but it was agreed that it will not be done at present. The dates for the Annual weekend for 2011 will be September 9, 10 & 11. This will be confirmed with Honeywell.
- Information packets have been prepared for chapter members to give to prospective members. Each packet contains brochures about the organization and the insurance coverage along with contact information for the particular chapter. These will be available to everyone interested in bringing new people to IWA.
- Plans were made for another all-member family outing similar to ones hosted by various chapters in the past - fossil hunting at Richmond, Wildlife Prairie Park (Peoria, IL), a spring weekend in Brown County, picnic at Mississinewa and Kellogg's Bird Sanctuary in Michigan. *This is covered in a separate item on this page.* →
- There was discussion about various fund raising ideas that would promote IWA and the artists while contributing funds to the chapter and the organization. No decision was made on this.
- It was noted that there needs to be clarification of the signature membership program. This will be addressed at the upcoming meeting of the Executive Board planned for May.

The Central Chapter has a meeting scheduled for April 24 at Diana Hunter's home in Indianapolis.

We have not been informed about plans for any activities with the Southern Chapter.

* * * * *

All members are reminded that they are welcome to attend meetings and other activities of any chapter. They're fun gatherings, the food is outstanding and we'll really appreciate your input and ideas.

AN ALL-MEMBER ACTIVITY

June 12 - mark your calendar ←

Plans are under way for an all-member family outing to Ouabache State Park in Wells County. The name, (pronounced "Wabash"), is the French spelling of the Indian word for the river that borders the 2000 acre property. The park, located three miles east of Bluffton, has a Bison breeding program. There are paved trails, a pool, a fire tower and shelters. There is a playground and other activities are listed on the website www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2975.htm.

A shelter has been reserved so we will plan for a picnic lunch. This will not be a carry-in meal to share (mostly just take care of your family group) although we do know there will be some members there who will be glad to help if you overestimate how many brownies or chocolate-chip cookies your group can consume.

There is a nominal charge (per vehicle) for entrance to the property, otherwise costs for the day will be reasonable - and car-pooling can help there. You don't need to commit yet - just check your calendar with your family. If you want to get the final plans let us know to jnkbontrager@comcst.net and we'll make sure you have directions and other information.

EXHIBIT REPORT

Hope you're getting busy on your exhibit entries - the calendar on the cover shows the deadline date for your intent form is July 31. We've seen a rough draft of the prospectus so watch for yours in the mail soon. It will give all the information.



Our fine IWA photographers might have gotten a better shot but Jim Hill was the lucky guy who saw this Red-tailed Hawk sitting on the deck railing looking in at him - just before it tried to fly through the door. And . . . No, he didn't get a picture of that.

Better luck next time, Jim ;o)

INDIANA WILDLIFE ARTISTS, Inc
P O Box 382
North Webster - IN 46555-0382

Indiana Wildlife Artists

Founded in 1982, IWA is a not-for-profit organization. Aims of the association are 1) to promote the advancement of wildlife art within the state of Indiana and to provide wildlife artists an opportunity to meet, to learn and to exhibit; 2) to encourage appreciation and understanding of wildlife among members of the general public and to provide an opportunity for young people to learn about wildlife through participation and/or attendance at exhibits; 3) to promote wildlife art as a fine art and 4) to assist conservation groups with public education for the benefit of wildlife.

The IWA newsletter is published quarterly for January, April, July and October. Submission of articles and photographs is welcome and may be solicited. Items and photos may be sent to the Editor via email or to the address shown. Deadlines will be posted in the calendar.

Thanks . . . Laura Hill - Editor

Check the web site for updates any time
www.IndianaWildlifeArtists.org



APRIL

Earth Day 22

Central Chapter meeting 24

MAY

All member field trip
to Children's Museum and
Executive Board Meeting
(details to be confirmed)

JUNE

All member outing to 12
Ouabache State Park

News items deadline 15

JULY & Beyond

Newsletter publication 1

Deadline for exhibit entries 31