



President's Message

Alice Leese

The American Plains is characterized by its levelness, absence of trees and semi-aridity. This area was named the Great American Desert on early maps. Immigration and the Homestead Act brought millions of people to the plains. Farming practices used in Europe and the American East were used on the plains. A severe drought from 1930 to 1939 along with mechanized farming brought about the Dust Bowl.

Around two and a half million migrants left the plains states during the Dust Bowl. The ones who stayed were forced to adapt to the land. President Franklin D. Roosevelt set up government agencies to develop farming and ranching practices that would work on the Plains. The CCC planted a belt of trees that stretched from Canada to Texas. This was the Great Depression era also and the WPA was formed to put artists to work. We now have the Dust Bowl era documented by photographers and artists. Alexander Hogue, Grant Wood, Thomas Hart Benton are just a few of the painters who documented the plains.

Art is a means of communication...a way of saying what can't be said with words. As American Plains Artists some of what we are communicating with viewers is the vastness, aridity, levelness and the peoples' tenacious grasp on a way of life on the plains. We have a great show this year that communicates to and educates viewers about the American Plains.

Notes from the Show Chairman

Judy McElroy- Chairman

After much preparation and anticipation the 2010 APA Exhibition & Sale opens Friday, Sept. 3rd at the Great Plains Art Museum in Lincoln, NE. The Opening Reception, Announcement of Awards, and Sale will be Oct. 1st from 5-7 PM. A supper-dinner will follow at Spaghetti Works. On Saturday, Oct. 2nd activities include a free seminar by the APA Awards Juror, Allan Duerr, Co-Publisher/CEO of *Art of the West* magazine. His seminar is titled "Art Doesn't Just Happen" ... a discussion of the obligations and responsibilities of those participating in the world of creating, selling or buying art. This will be followed by lunch at Runza (a Nebraska specialty) and then a drive to David City to tour the Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art, M. L. Moseman's private collection, his studio on the farm, and a visit to Makovicka Winery (wine tasting opportunity with cheese from the local Jisa Dairy—two great American success stories). This will be capped by a supper-dinner at the Seward Golf Club. Please email me at jimcartist@yahoo.com or call 308-249-1488 to make reservations for the meals and activities. Hope to see you in Lincoln!

Judy McElroy, APA Show Chairman

APA OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President- Alice Leese

Vice President-

Secretary- Mary Ross
Buchholz

Treasurer- Marvin Stevenson

Past President- Fritzi Heron

Committee Chairs:

Show- Judy McElroy

Advertise- JaNeil Anderson

Eduction/Scholarship- Ken
Rowland

Webmaster- Jammey
Huggins

Newsletter- Tamara Rymer

Historian-



Signature Member Updates

We are in need of a Vice- President. We also need someone to chair the Historian Committee, this committee will gather, organize and preserve a record of the APA's growth and development through the use of written documentation, photographs, news coverage, etc.



Member News



Artist **Marvin Stevenson** won first place for his watercolor work 'A Spring Shower' in the Watercolor Horizons: A Juried Exhibition. Stevenson said it took him several weeks to complete his entry. An exhibit of entries could be seen at the Ellen Noël Art Museum through Aug. 23 - Kevin Buehler|Odessa American

Fritzi Heron also participated in the Watercolor Horizons Group Annual Exhibit at the Ellen Noel Art Museum, Odessa, TX., and won fourth place.

Barbara Ann Jones received Best Of Show at the Associated Creative Artists 2010 Juried Member Show for her artwork, *The White Shawl and Teapot*. The Show was held at the Showplace in Dallas, Texas . Bruce Peil a signature of the Outdoor Painters Society was the Juror.

Her painting entitled, *Echoes in Turquoise*, was juried into the 25th Annual Bosque Art Classic, at the Bosque Arts Center in Clifton , Texas . The Juror was John Coleman a member of the Cowboy Artists of America and the National Sculpture Society.

Member News continued

New Cheyenne Frontier Days Western Art Show Artist Chosen for 2011 Poster

Cheyenne, Wyoming – July 21, 2010 – The Art Show Committee has made a unanimous decision in naming **Karen Cooper**, a first time artist to the show, as next year's poster artist. The painting chosen is titled "First Second" and depicts a bronc rider coming straight out of the chute.

*"The Caracal", the 12th painting in "Our World of Cats" signature series created by **Helen F. Howerton**, will be featured during the American Institute of Chemical Engineers Symposium Sept. 12-16, 2010 in San Francisco, CA.*

The commissioned paintings are in the permanent collection of Haldor-Topsoe, Inc, catalyst manufacturer.



Clifton, Texas artist **Mike Irvin** had five paintings selected into the 6th Annual Wild Horse Western Art Show & Sale held July 9-10, 2010 in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Member News continued



Wildlife artist, **Helen F. Howerton**, is presenting two wildlife/animal painting workshops this Fall.

Classes will be held at Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, OK.

Session 1: Saturday, Sept. 25th & Sunday, Sept. 26th. Register by Sept. 10th, class size is limited to 10

Session 2: Saturday, Dec. 4th & Sunday, Dec. 5th. Register by Nov. 19th, class size is limited to 10

Helen will work in acrylic sharing techniques for creating fur, feathers, eyes, etc. Students may work in their chosen medium & will receive individual attention.

Visit Helen's website at www.howertonart.com

William Schneider News:

"Morning Meditation" wins award
Bill's painting "Morning Meditation" (former title: "Bernadette") was named a finalist in the *Portrait / Figure* Category in the 27th annual *Artist's Magazine* competition. This is the sixth time his work has made the finals. There were over 5000 entrants in this year's competition. Winning works will be featured in the December issue.

Bill commented, "I was captivated by the model's beatific expression as she looked up at my north light windows. Don't move' I told her and started to work"

J. I. (Judy) McElroy will be exhibiting through September by invitation in Artists Inviting Artists at the Wild Rose Gallery in Broken Bow, Nebraska. McElroy will also be participating as the Invited Artist at the Grand Duke Alexis Rendezvous outside Hayes Center, Nebraska, where the original last great buffalo hunt took place in 1872. Son of Russian Czar Alexander II, the Grand Duke Alexis, visited Nebraska then for a buffalo hunt led by Buffalo Bill Cody, General George Custer, and General Phil Sheridan with Chief Spotted Tail and 100 Sioux warriors demonstrating the Sioux way of hunting with bow and arrow. Today the celebration continues for young and old alike near the actual rendezvous site for a genuine prairie experience while reliving the old west. J. I. McElroy will be displaying artwork and painting activities on site Saturday and Sunday, September 25-26th.

Member News continued



A Kansas First

For the first time since their formation, the National Day of the Cowboy organization selected a painting by a Kansas artist as the image for their annual award.

El Dorado artist **Jim Clements'** painting "Simple Things" was featured on the 2010 *Cowboy Keeper Award*, given to individuals and organizations they feel have made a substantial contribution to the preservation of the west.

"It is a great honor to have my painting used for this award," Clements said. "To me, painting represents freedom - so it's just natural that the wide open spaces, rich history and independent people of the American West translate so well to canvas. My desire is to honor the spirit of the West in each painting I do."

Bethany Braley, executive director and publisher of National Day of the Cowboy said, "Each year I look for a piece of western art that says something about preserving cowboy culture or pioneer heritage," adding she thought Clements' painting was perfect for this year's award.

The National Day of the Cowboy, based in Fort Worth, Texas, is a nonprofit organization that contributes to the preservation of America's Cowboy heritage. It was celebrated this year on July 24. Past award recipients have included Michael Martin Murphy and the Rex Allen Museum.

Member News continued



Mary Ross Buchholz has three drawings juried into the [Bosque Art Classic](#) in Clifton, TX. The opening reception is Sept. 11th and continues through Sept. 26th.

Mary also has two drawings in the [AQHA: America's Horse in Art](#) Show and Sale. She is thrilled to announce that her piece titled "The Right Kind" charcoal and graphite 7.5" x 5.5" was sold at the opening reception.

She is looking forward to exhibiting in the 2010 invitational [Heart of the West](#) show and sale at the National Cowgirl Museum & Hall of Fame in Ft. Worth, TX starting this Oct. 1st and continuing through Dec. 5th.



Original Oil
"Seasons Change"
30" x 60"

By
Kenneth W. Shanika

This painting seen at
**Masterworks of
Landscape**

Masterworks of Landscape
A CELEBRATION of the ROCKY MOUNTAINS
Art Show Opens-August 27, 2010
Artist's Reception - Grand Opening - Meet the Artists - August 27, 6-9 PM
Closes Sept. 30, 2010

Member News continued



Cecy Turner will be teaching a three-day workshop in both oil and watercolor for the Amarillo Art Institute in Amarillo, Texas, November 3-5th. Contact Lee Blakney 806-674-0282 or email: lee@eearena.com. Cecy will be having a solo show of her work at Sunset Art Gallery in Amarillo the month of November with the opening reception November 5th from 5-9p.m. "Fall's Arrival at Mueller Park" 18 x 24 oil on board

21st Annual High Desert Museum Rendezvous was presented Aug. 21.

JaNeil Anderson captures this western image for the event.



"No More Kicking"

Member News continued



More news from **William A. Schneider-**

My workshop, *Design/Composition Secrets of the Masters* is featured in the new issue of *Workshop Magazine*. The magazine is on newsstands now.

Shown is one of two images in the article:

- Aglow 20x16

As students we learn (usually in this order) *shapes, values, color temperature, edges, and ultimately, design*. Design trumps all the rest! A painting with good composition but mediocre rendering will still fly off the wall. A painting with wonderfully painted objects that are poorly placed will probably never sell. There are many classes and workshops that focus on rendering people, landscapes, or still lifes; this workshop focused on creating a finished, well-designed painting that captures the viewer's attention.

Days one through three we focused on design principles used by such masters as Rembrandt, Waterhouse, and Sargent, as well as contemporary greats like Mian Situ, and Howard Terpning. Students analyzed masterworks and then immediately applied those principles to their own exercises. On days four and five they designed and developed a painting incorporating those elements.

I will teach this same workshop at the Fredericksburg Artists' School Sept. 20 - 24, 2010. You can contact them at <http://www.fbgartschool.com> or by phone at (830) 997-0515

To submit to the next APA Newsletter, please email information by Nov. 15, 2010 to: tamararymer@yahoo.com

Please note: For pictures to be used, they must be 150 dpi, jpeg, and no larger than 5" either direction.

**Limit one photo per person
please submit your information only.**