

# News from *The Plastic Club*

## 2009 SCHEDULE

**Alan Klawans**, our Exhibition Chairman has announced the exhibition schedule for the remainder of the year.

Here's what's ahead...

May 3-24 **Members' Medal Show**

June 7-28 **Workshop Show**

July 12 **Flat Henri** (One Day) and  
Summer Party 2-5 PM

August 2-22 **Models as Artists Show**

September 13-24 **Objects & Things**  
(Members' Show)

September 26 and 27 **Karl and Kim Show**

October 4-25 **George Krause Show** (rental)

November 1-28 **American Color Print Society**

December 6-31 **Red, White, & Green**  
(Members' Show)

## Gift to the Club

We have recently been given a wonderful treasure trove of etchings and drawings done by an early member of our Club, **Esther Alethea Richards**. Ms. Richards was the first woman to design a stamp for the U. S. Postal Service. This was in 1934. Ms. **Kathryn A. Newman** contacted us last month and told us that she had been Googling Ms. Richards' name and came across our web site. She had bought these artworks at an estate sale some years ago. She was now ready to pass these artworks along and asked us if we would like to have them. Of course, we said yes. 125 prints and drawings are included. They will be sorted out, and some may go to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania where our archive is housed, and some will be kept as teaching aids in the Printmaking workshop. We hope to mount an exhibition of these works soon.

## New Stuff

If you've been to the Club in the last several months you may have noticed some changes. Changes for the better to be sure. It is the basement that has changed the most. It was a place to store things that were no longer used and it was in bad shape due to water damage and neglect. But now, thanks in large part to **Bob Jackson, Alan Klawans**, and the Glass Brick contractors, the basement is becoming a whole new place. The "Men's Room" has been completely redone with a new sink, a new window, new walls and lighting. The windows in the dining room and the kitchen have been opened up and replaced with glass brick. The gloom has been lifted! The old office has become the beautiful, new Printmaking Room. The kitchen has a new, six-burner stove, refrigerator, microwave (donated by Hilarie Hawley), and new closets and shelves have been built. In coming months the dining room will become a new exhibition space with new walls and lighting. Thanks go to Bob and Alan and everyone who has contributed money through the years to make these improvements happen.

We also have two new trees outside our door. The Flowering Pear trees were donated by **Virginia Trosino** through the auspices of the **West Washington Square Tree Program**. They replace the Cherry trees that died last year. They should be in bloom as you read this. Come and take a look at your "new" Club.



*The new, improved downstairs restroom*

## Small Worlds show

Our Annual Small Worlds show opened on Sunday, February 1st, with a big reception attended by huge numbers of people. There was nothing 'small' about it. The tea room table was laden with many treats provided by the Club and donated by the people that came to the opening. 109 artists showed 182 works in all media. The juror, **Joseph Kazimierczyk**, chose six prizewinners. They were: First Prize, **David Golas** for his self portrait entitled "A Closer Look." Second Prize went to **Jill Sprague** for her photograph entitled, "Small World (a good title!)" Third Prize went to our own **Louise LaFond** for her lovely drypoint etching entitled "Self Portrait." Club Member **Bob Bohne** received an Honorable Mention for his sensitive watercolor, "Snow Bound." Congratulations to all!



Part of the crowd at the "Small Worlds" reception

## Women's Caucus For Art Show

The **Women's Caucus for Art**, under the leadership of **Marie Elcin**, rented the Club in March for their Members Show. 15 of their members exhibited their work in the Shiekman Studio. Meanwhile two of their group, **Diane Ruikas** and **Pam Flynn**, held personal shows of their work in the main room and the tea room. On Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, they held an afternoon of music, dance, and poetry for the general public and friends. The Women's Caucus for Art is a national organization that promotes and supports women in the arts. We were happy to host their show.

## Spring Dinner

The date for our Annual Spring Dinner and General Membership Meeting has been chosen. It is Sunday, May 31st, beginning at 5PM. An invitation and reservation form should be enclosed. Try to come. It's always a nice time to get together with other members and eat, drink, and be merry.

## Think Green

The "Think Green" Show opened on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, with a reception and awards ceremony. The theme was 'the ecology of our planet.' As expected, many of the works contained or were made from recycled materials. Also, landscape and references to the environment were well represented. The juror for this show was **Peter Petraglia**. He chose **Rick Wright's** large photograph, "New Landscape No 8," for First Prize. Second Prize went to **Andrew Hoffmann** for his cartoon "Our Northern Skies." Third Prize went to **Alden Cole** for his lighted "Luminary." Honorable Mentions went to **Betty MacDonald** for her work in bobbin lace, "Their Vanishing World," **Ted Amick** for his collage "Shoe Parade," **Sheldon Strober** for his painting "Summer in Salem," **Eileen Eckstein** for her photo, "Eat Your Greens" and **Karen Frank** for her painting "Tenuous Paradise." All of the prizewinners except Karen Frank are members of the Plastic Club.



Ted Amick, Maria Singer, Bob Jackson, Sheldon Strober, Karen Frank, Alan Klawans, Eileen Eckstein and Andrew Hoffmann (in front) .

## PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

The Printmaking Workshop began on February 28<sup>th</sup> and has been running every Saturday afternoon since then. **Louise LaFond**, who has a Masters Degree in Printmaking, is the monitor and teacher. So far, attendance has been light, but we are hoping that more members take advantage of our new facility. The workshop runs from 1 to 4 PM and costs 10 dollars. For more detailed information go to our website and click on "workshops."

## Dues Are 'A-Cumen' Due

Believe it or not, it's that time of the year again. Your Annual Dues are due May 1<sup>st</sup>. In spite of rising costs, no increases have been made. It is still \$60.00 for Full Members, \$40.00 for Associate Members, and \$25.00 for Members who live more than 50 miles from the Club. We hope that you are all surviving this economic crisis well enough to continue to be part of one of the oldest art clubs in the U.S. We need your support.