

News from The Plastic Club

Renovations

Hoorah, hoorah! At long last, the renovations to the Shiekman Studio are finished (except for some little details that Bob Jackson is working on.) If you haven't already been upstairs to see what has been done, come ASAP. New lighting and renovation of the walls and ceiling have brightened up the room considerably. We've also added a new movie screen to use on our Plastic Club movie nights (check the web site for movies and times. We hope we can enjoy the Sheikman Studio for many years to come without any problems.

Thanks, Bill!

William Henry Campbell or, or as was known, "Bill" Campbell died last year at the age of 97. He had been our oldest member and one of the first men to be admitted to membership in the Plastic Club once men were allowed. He had no heirs and decided to leave one third of his estate to the Plastic Club. That amounted to somewhat over \$117,000! The estate has now been settled and we recently received the check. We believe it is the largest gift in the history of the Club.

Scapes Show

The Scapes show opened on September 8th. This is another show curated by our Exhibition Chair, Susan Stromquist. She was looking for all sorts of "scapes", land, sea, city, sky, body... and she got them. 170 examples of "scapes" were on the walls and tables. The juror, Karen Baumeister, loved the exhibition and spent many hours carefully considering her decisions. She awarded First Prize to Colleen Brand for her acrylic, "*Smokey Horizon*." Second Prize went to our own, John Benigno for his photograph "*Winter White*." Third Prize went to John Gummere for his painting "*Night Scene*." Honorable Mentions went to Ellen LoCicero, Diane Podolsky, and Denise Romano Bright, all Plastic Club members. The winners exemplified the theme and showed a high level of craftsmanship, professionalism, and expression.

3 PHOTOGRAPHERS

Robert Reinhardt, Frank Rausch, and Ed Snyder, all members of the Plastic Club, rented our space for a show during the month of October. They called the show "*Three Perspectives*." They put over 100 of their photographs up on the walls of all three floors. All three have an affinity for cemeteries and take photos of the gravestones and sculpture that can be found in them, especially in the older ones. Ed is involved with Mt. Moriah cemetery in Southwest Philadelphia. He's helping to clean it up after years of neglect. Rob Reinhardt helps out at the The Woodlands Cemetery in West Philadelphia and recently spent several weeks in Scotland clearing away weeds in a neglected cemetery there. And, Frank Rausch is involved with Laurel Hill Cemetery near Manayunk. Landscape and still life also interest them. The show looked great. The entire Plastic Club can be rented for \$500.00 for a three week show. The trick is to get on the schedule. There are only a limited number of months that might be available. Contact Cynthia Arkin, the President, and she may be able to reserve a month in the future for you to have your show.



Ellen LoCicero, John Benigno, and Colleen Brand with Susan Stromquist, Plastic Club Exhibition Chair

Exhibition Schedule

December, *Weather*; **January**, *New Members*; **February**, *Travel & Transport*; **March**, *Small Worlds*; **April**, *Fiber, Fabric, Textiles*.

Models As Artists

Every summer for the last several years we have given our models a chance to show what they do when they are not modeling. Most of our models are very creative people and do many different sorts of art and crafts, written work, dance, theater, etc. This year's show opened with 65 pieces of artwork submitted by 18 models. The winner was **Jenn Warpole** for her untitled oil painting.

Second place was awarded to **Debora Dias**. Third Prize was awarded to **Madalyn Freedman**. Nick Brown, Maria Singer, Alexandra Thomas, and Debora Dias were given Honorable Mentions. The Juror was Jody Sweitzer. There isn't a better reception than the Models As Artists reception. All the models get to participate whether they have submitted "art" or not. This year Irene Reinke did a fabulous sabre dance, dancing around the studio with a sword on her head. Several people read their poetry among them being Jym Paris and Alicia Bong. Stephanie Hyland and Rebecca Cohen presented videos that they had made. Wonderful stuff! Another model did a dance with her hand-painted hoola hoops. Rachel George made a great pie that disappeared in record time. And, **Bob Jackson**, the model master, gave out grab bags filled with corn nuggets, blue cheese, and Amana jelly from Iowa. Lots of Fun!

Jody Sweitzer Exhibition

Concurrent with the Artists As Models show, the juror of that show, **Jody Sweitzer**, had her own show in the Bob Jackson Gallery. Entitled "18 On 18", the show was a reflection of the past 18 years of her creative work. It was comprised of drawings, collage, photographs, video, sculpture, assemblages and constructions using various materials. They were very witty and thought provoking. Besides teaching at the University of the Arts, Jody is the part owner of Dirty Frank's Bar and curator of the Off The Wall Gallery inside the bar. Look for her behind the bar on Thursday evenings. Also look for many members of the Plastic Club. They'll be there.

ACPS Exhibition

The Annual Members Exhibition of the American Color Print Society opened on Sunday, November 3rd. 75 prints of all types and techniques were hung. This year's theme, "Black & White + One", limited the artists to one color which was unusual for a group that was founded to encourage their members to use color in their works. Among the many prize winners were **Jack Gerber** and **Alan J. Klawans** of the Plastic Club.

You Wanna Be A Model?

The Portrait Workshop is looking for a few good men and women to model for the group. They meet from 9:30 to 12:30 every Tuesday morning. The candidate needs to stay reasonably still, seated in a chair, for six periods of twenty minutes separated by ten minute rests for two consecutive weeks. We are hoping you will volunteer your time. The perk beyond keeping costs down, is that you might wind up with a very good portrait of yourself. And, by becoming a model, you will be invited to show your work in the annual Models as Artists show in the summer. Like jury duty, it's an interesting experience if you have never done it before. You can contact the monitor, Remo Frangiosa, at 215-923-6549, for more information. Or, better yet, why not come to the workshop and do a portrait yourself.



At the Models As Artists reception: Bob Jackson, Jenn Warpole, Nick Brown, and Susan Stromquist



Models of the Plastic Club with Bob Jackson.