

News from The Plastic Club

HOLIDAY DINNER

Another year means another Holiday Dinner. Good as always and well attended, the dinner had something different on the menu this year. It was an informative lecture by the eminent curator **Patricia Likos Ricci**. The subject of her talk was one of the founders of the Plastic Club, **Violet Oakley**. With a projector showing images of Ms. Oakley and her work, Ms. Ricci told the story of Violet Oakley's life and career as an artist at the beginning of the 20th Century. Her greatest achievement was the design and production of a series of huge murals inside the Pa. State Capitol Building in Harrisburg. The lecture started after the drinks and hors d'oeuvres were consumed. After the lecture the food came out. We had roasted pig, turkey breast, lasagna, melanzane, potatoes, sour dough bread, salads, desserts and more drinks. AND...the crackers. We also presented the Plastic Club Award. This year's recipient is our recording secretary, **Janice R. Moore**. For a long time she has been taking the minutes at the meeting of the Board of Directors and is also there to take in work and give back artwork for the shows that we have. Besides that, she was the monitor of the Thursday Morning Open Studio workshop for many years. The certificate that she received (along with \$100 and the "plastic" club) notes that she has "demonstrated her unswerving support of the Club's programs and its members" over a long time. Thank you and congratulations, Janice.



President Rick Wright with Janice R. Moore and the club

Fire in Your Belly

What is it that moves you? What gets you excited? What do you really care about? Those were the questions that were posed by the theme of this show. 77 artists answered the challenge of the prospectus and put together another good show at the Plastic Club. It opened on December 3rd with the usual reception full of the artists, their guests and the curious general public. The juror was **Helen Mirkil**, a painter, sculptor, and poet. She awarded the First Prize to **Marc Britton** for his evocative mixed media collage entitled "Feather in the Ash." Second Prize went to **Sam Dion** for his large pastel "Still Life." **Eileen Eckstein** got Third Prize for her photograph of a nuclear cooling tower taken from an airplane window. Four Plastic Club members received Honorable Mentions: **Lorie Balistocky, Alan J. Klawans, Jesse Vandenburg**, and **Janice R. Moore**. Good work!

New Members Exhibition

Every year in January, we host a New Members Show where we can see the works of members who have joined the Club in the preceding year. This year 16 of them exhibited their works. They were: **Harold K. Brown, Chenlin Cai, Rob Cox, Sam Dion, Stephan Dobosh, Mattias Duhrsen, Hugo Hsu, Mark Krull, Saikim Kumnuantipaya, Maggie Lily, Liv Losee-Unger, Terry Maricondo, Julia McGehean, Maria Singer, Dori Spector, and Barbara Watts**. The show was strong and had a good variety of styles and materials. It was evidence that we are continuing to attract talented artists to become members of the Plastic Club in its 121st year of existence. Welcome to the Club, "Class of 2017." We hope you enjoy it here.

Save the Date!

The Annual Rabbit is coming Saturday, May 19th. This year's theme is The Royal Rabbit.. It not too early to begin planning what you want to wear for this party although you can come as you are. Special guests this year will be the musical group the "Just Roses and Friends" who will perform a selection of great songs. We promise you will have a good time.

Through a Glass Lightly

The glass case on the first floor was given to the Club by John Wanamaker (remember him?) We like to keep it full of things that might interest you. During the month of January, the case held examples of **Janice Moore's** grandfather's terra cotta work. **Herbert Wills Moore** worked at the Galloway Terra Cotta Co. in West Philadelphia devising glazes for garden pottery. The lovely bowls, vases and even some bronzed baby shoes were inherited by Janice (The shoes are not terra cotta!) If *you* have something interesting to show in the case, let **Rick Wright** or **Susan Stromquist** know. We'd love to see what you like to collect.

Directory Changes

This year the Board of Directors has decided to make an "insert" with changes to the current 2017-2018 directory rather than produce an entirely new directory. You should find this insert in the next mailing. If there are other changes we didn't know about, please contact us so we can update our database accordingly. Thank you.

Show Biz

In the **Bob Jackson Gallery** in December we had a show of Holiday cards that were made by members of the Club. Funny, clever, beautiful reminders of the friendships made here and elsewhere. Upstairs in the glass case, were older cards that are now housed in our archives on deposit with the Pennsylvania Historical Society. During January and February the gallery was host to a show of works by the monitors and backup monitors of the Club's ten weekly workshops. Participating in the show were **Mitchell Landsman, Juliette Watts, Edward Johnson, Michael Guinn, Ted Gutswa, Jesse Vandenburg, Mina Segal, Remo Frangiosa, Mervin Kline, Alli DiPiazza, Terence Smith, and Alice Meyer-Wallace.** Judging by the quality of the work, you are in good hands when you come to a workshop. So, come!

In Memoriam

Karen Frank died on January 4, 2018. She was a member of the Plastic Club for ten years. She exhibited often and had won First Prize at last year's Small Worlds Show. She was a painter with a unique style. In 2011, she endowed a Memorial Prize in honor of her friend, Mildred Beizer. Now, friends and family are exploring setting up a memorial prize in her honor and a show of her work at the Club. The Plastic Club has contributed \$50 to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation in her memory.

Drawing Marathon

The drawing Marathons that we had in the past two years were a lot of fun and a great success. So, we're doing it again on Sunday, April 22nd. We'll have more information as we get nearer to the date. But, save that date! Sunday, April 22! All day!

Movement, Motion, & Sequential Art

The 4th of February was a cold, rainy Sunday and Super Bowl LII mania was overtaking Philadelphia. We didn't think many people would show up. Nevertheless, quite a large crowd did come to the Club for the opening of the show. 73 artists were showing their interpretations of the theme in a variety of mediums and techniques including three video presentations. The juror, Jamar Nicholas, awarded First Prize to **Elizabeth (Betty) MacDonald's** acrylic paint on a corrugated cardboard piece entitled "You Move – I Move." As you moved in front of the piece, it changed its colors. The Second Prize went to **Charlotte Elsner's** mobile made out of painted, desiccated orange peels. The Third Prize was awarded to **Chelsea McAlarney** for her cartoon entitled "Angel's Advocate." Honorable Mentions went to **Dante G. Celia, Marie Huard, Ron Ploeg, Amanda Silbering, and Rusty Eveland.** Congratulations to all. It was a very "moving" show.



L to r: Exhibition Chairperson, Susan Stromquist, Rusty Eveland, Dante G. Celia, Elizabeth H. MacDonald, Amanda Silbering, Charlotte Elsner, President, Rick Wright, and Ron Ploeg