

GENESEE VALLEY



PLEIN AIR PAINTERS

Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters, Inc., a not-for-profit artist association, promotes and inspires quality plein air painting while providing socially pleasant painting opportunities for its membership throughout the year.

August 1, 2006 E-LETTER

Editor, Brande Arno, Signature Artist Member

MEMBER NEWS:

Web Bloggers -- Yes we have members who have jumped on this wagon and are painting it what ever color they feel like! Colette Savage has a site at www.colettesavageblogspot.com/ and one of our newer members Gordon vanVliet at www.vanvlietartblogspot.com . You may view all members' websites by going on the www.gvpap.com Members List page.

Colette Savage has selected pastel landscapes for viewing at Flat Iron Café, 561 State Street, in Rochester. Show opens August 8 and runs through August 28.

Teri Barlis and **Claudine Bartlett** took awards in the Penfield Art Association's June show where they submitted plein air pieces. Congratulations!

Chris O'Handley won Best of Show and **Colette Savage** won 1st place in pastel and two Honorable Mentions for their plein air paintings in the Suburban Rochester Art Group's Summer Show.

NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Caring for your painting brushes.

With summer light comes more time for painting plein air. Are you one who paints and paints and then, out of sheer creative exhaustion, puts off cleaning your brushes until the next day or worse yet, two day's later? And, what about your brushes during workshops or working vacations? Sometimes we can't or don't get to our brushes as quickly after painting as we should and when we do get to them, they are frozen in pigment. A little information may help keep your brushes working like new ones a bit longer and on the artist's budget, this is important.

Oil Painters, What Charles Sovak does:

While teaching workshops, Charles Sovak brings along a large container of Stand Oil (Stand Oil is not Lindsey Oil). It is very thick and you can get it at Cheap Joe's.com or Utrecht.com.) At the end of a painting day, he dips his brushes in the Stand Oil and completely coats the brush hair. Then, he places them inside a large baggie, wraps it around the brushes, and secures with tape or a rubber band.

The next day, he removes the brushes, briskly whisks them in medium, wiping well on a rag or paper towel and is ready to go again. This method allows the pigment to remain soft and rise on top of the brushes for easy removal with the medium or turpentine.

What about Artist's Soap?

You do not have to pay big money to clean your brushes. For synthetic brushes a fatty soap like unscented Dove, works very well. For bristle brushes, look in your market's cosmetic aisle for a soap that contains ground apricot shells or oatmeal or even coffee grounds. Any one of these soaps will shorten your time at the sink as they help the pigment to dislodge from your brush.

Always be aggressive with washing your brushes! When lathering your brush, push it into the soap so the soap can get up into its ferrule. It is better to be brutal than to end up with a brush that has pigment trapped there. Brushes can take a good scrubbing and you should scrub them until the bubbles on the soap don't take on any pigment. Then rinse well. Wipe dry with paper towel and take care to arrange the damp bristles back to original shape.

Watercolor Brushes:

Watercolor brushes will benefit from the use of the white Dove soap techniques stated above. Watercolorists may want to wash the water bucket with liquid soap and water the same time you wash your

brushes. Once a month or so, add 1/2 teaspoon of peroxide or bleach to the wash water to keep germs away from your bucket.

In all cases, do not let the clean brushes dry in your brush can. Always let them dry on a clean and dry (paper) towel lying flat on the counter overnight. This will help protect the glue under the ferrule along with protecting the ferrule itself.

GETTING TO KNOW THE MEMBERS:

This month's artists are Charter Signature Members Kathy Bolin and Steve BonDurant.

Kathy Bolin:

Kathy likes to look at her paintings-in-progress upside down on the easel. A cast shadow has caught her flipping her canvas in workshops, in the field and while painting from a model. No, she doesn't turn the model upside down to match. She is looking for something to catch while the painting is upside down.

The shadow knows her painterly instincts are ready to catch what to do next to make the painting a prize piece. Her work has taken many a prize since 1998 and gained her Signature status with GVPAP in May, 2006.

Kathy is a very kind, quiet, yet persevering artist. When it comes to plein air painting in the cold, count her in. The shadow has noted that when even the hardiest of painters call it a day, she will stay out in the cold until her piece is just about finished. She reminds the shadow of the turtle and the hare.

Kathy has a degree in art. Additionally has studied with John Peisley, Diane Lochocki, John Wagner, G.A. Sheller and Steve Carpenter. She has taken workshops with Paul Leveille and Ward Mann. Kathy is married to Bill. They raised three children. One of which will make them grandparents in September. She is our Treasurer and also belongs to Pittsford Art Group and Penfield Art Association. Her favorite medium is oil.



Steve BonDurant:

Steve owns *Icon Graphics, INC.* and generously created our seven-color logo. We all enjoy wearing our GVPAP clothing with Steve's artwork on it.

He holds an AAS, Painting from RIT and BFA in Medical Illustration. The shadow wants to know where he got the body organs to practice with?

Oh well, that was back then. Now, he has been plein air painting for six years and holds membership in Rochester Art Club and Penfield Art Association.

Steve likes to pack up his plein air bags and go on vacation. When he does, he choose places where there are no cast shadows, like sandy beaches. He's been to Cape Cod where he not only brought home beautiful paintings of area, he brought

the beach sand on the ---umm I mean as the subject of some paintings! Steve has studied with Don Stone and has taken workshops in Mohegan Island, Maine, France and Tuscany, Italy. Steve is married with a son who shares in a second passion, ice hockey.

OTHER NEWS

Call for Artists:

Friends of the Public Market is seeking area artists to participate in its 2nd Annual Artist Row Fair on Sunday, October 1, 2006 from 10 a.m. to 2 pm. The deadline for applications is August 30th. An application is available on line at www.marketfriends.org. Free both space (10"x30") is provided; \$10 application fee.

IPAP Day

Although GVPAP will celebrate International Plein Air Paintout Day on Thursday, September 7th at Ontario Beach, you may be interested in journeying to Niagara Falls and participate with IPAP—International Plein Air Painters. Consider joining IPAP in their fourth "WORLDWIDE" Paint Out in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. IPAP Day is scheduled for Sept. 8-9, 2006.

<http://ipap.homestead.com/niagara.html>

First GVPAP Annual Meeting:

Thursday, August 31, 2006 Pultneyville Yacht Club. 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 pm. BREAKFAST and LUNCH and APPETIZERS; two critiques and party. Harbor boats, coastline with cottages, structures, old village cottages, shops, sailboats, yacht club, vistas (check out our web "Past Events" and see last year's photos - 38 folks came last year). Attendees will be asked to bring a dish to pass. Chip Stevens is the Host; however, RSVP TO BARBARA JABLONSKI at bjablons@rochester.rr.com Take a vacation day if you have a day job. This is a paintout you do not want to miss!

Editor's note: Deadline for September Newsletter is August 27.

If you have a "blog" or website, email to me at address above as I'd like to publish them in upcoming newsletters. Also, be sure to email me with any of your plein air awards, items of interest or adventures. artistbrande@msn.com

Found Items: Several items were left at Terry Brooks' house (Lady In the Garden Paintout). They include: long sleeve, faded blue 100% cotton M shirt, the pocket has a coat of arms design stitched in white cotton. A hat, size S/M, with a wide brim, and has an almost white crinkled crepe band tied in a large bow at the back. Contact Terry tbrooks3@frontiernet.net

www.gvpap.com Check out our updated website.

-----*-Cut this out, fill out the form and send to Claudine -*-----

Esperanza Inn; Keuka Lake 2-Day Paintout

Monday, October 16th through Tuesday, October 17th. Keuka Lake Wineries and Vistas with overnight at Esperanza Inn on Keuka Lake

(see the attached website: <http://www.esperanzamansion.com/lodging.html>)

Please send in your deposit by August 8th to Claudine Bartlett. Esperanza Inn is holding all the rooms for GVPAP until August 11th when they must receive our check. Register now. Balance due October 1st.

Cost of Full Package: Price includes one night accommodation, Prix Fixe Dinner, Continental Breakfast, Box Lunch for Tuesday's paintout, Wine and Cheese Party, Tax and Gratuity.

- Triple person occupancy: 4 rooms available (King Size Bed and roll-away): \$100/person (non-refundable deposit \$60)
- Double occupancy: 4 rooms available with 2 double beds \$115/person (non-refundable deposit \$70);
17 rooms available with one King size bed \$115/person (non-refundable deposit \$70)
- Single occupancy: King Size bed \$175/person (non-refundable deposit \$100)

Please note: This paintout is for members of GVPAP only.

Send this registration form and deposits by **August 8, 2006** (deadline) to: Claudine Bartlett, Esperanza Paintout Host, 54 Little Spring Run, Fairport, NY 14450. Indicate room occupancy (triple, double or single occupancy) (first come, first serve basis). Checks must accompany this registration form to hold a room. Make checks to: **Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters** (not GVPAP)

For more info: call Claudine at 383-0679 or email: claudibclaudi@yahoo.com

Name _____ email: _____

Please reserve for me a Single ___; Double ___; Triple ___ room.

I will be rooming with (name of person(s):

Prix Fixe Dinner (soup, salad, entry, dessert, coffee/soft drink). I would like my entree to be: Chicken ___; Pork loin ___; Salmon ___; or Vegetable Cannelloni ___