

## GENESEE VALLEY



PLEIN AIR PAINTERS

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

## June 1, 2006 E-LETTER

Editor, Brande Arno, Signature Artist Member

### MEMBER NEWS:

**CONGRATULATIONS** TO OUR NEWEST SIGNATURE ARTIST MEMBERS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PASSED THE GVPAP JURY. They are:

**Kathleen Bolin**  
**Kathy Hess**

**Don Cooney**  
**Gilbert Jordan**

**Kathleen Hanney**  
**Colette Savage**

The Board of Directors and Members of GVPAP offers kudos to you for your commitment to plein air painting that has brought your skills to this level. Keep those brushes busy!

Special thanks go to our jury panel ... three members (not to be named) who developed the jury panel prospectus and the scoring sheet. A lot of thought, consideration and work went into the process to make this a positive, educational experience for our members. Also, thank you Kathleen Hanney for being the Registrar for the Jury. And, of course, we thank our friends at the Rochester Art Supply Store for enabling us to use their facility for three days.

**Phyllis Bryce Ely** has selected pieces to show at the Phoenix Coffee Café located at 325 N. Main Street in Canandaigua. Opening reception is on Friday, June 9 from 6 - 9 PM. Show hangs until August 18. Special coffee and special artwork, sounds like a great combo!

**Chip Stevens** has a 21-piece solo show at the Rochester Friendly Home on East Ave until July 1. Chip also has work accepted into the following non local shows: Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society's Spring Show, CNY Watercolor Society's Signature Member Show and the Adirondack National Exhibition of American Watercolors. Chip, you are a great painter with high standards.

**Barbara Doyle** was featured with friend Elaine Neuhliert in a "Pairs" painting exhibit at the Gallery in PennYan.

**Susie Covert** participated in "Paint the Town" in St. Petersburg, FL on April 20 - 22. She received an award of excellence and a cash prize. John Stobart was the painter-juror.

**Barbara Muratore** was featured on front page of the D&C on May 11. She was one of eleven GVPAP members painting that day at Highland Park.

**Collette Savage** has 15 pastel paintings on display at the Coffee Cabana, 123 Union St. in the Village of Spencerport until the end of June.

### NEWS YOU CAN USE:

**In the Field Workshop Series** -- GVPAP's very own plein air courses will feature Kathryn Bevier teaching pastels in June and Brande Arno teaching oil in August. Your cost per 3-day plein air session is \$150.00. See [www.gvpap.com](http://www.gvpap.com) "Educational Workshops" and "Downloads" to get the registration form.

**GVPAP Clothing With Logo:** We have achieved our necessary quota for our bulk order and the order is now in process. As soon as the items arrive you will be notified. Special thanks are extended to Kim Schwind who has done an outstanding job organizing this BIG, BIG project. Thank you, Kim.

**GVPAP Annual Plein Air Art Show at Barnes & Noble:** January, 2007 – Mark your calendars now! Prepare up to five plein air paintings this season. The prospectus will be issued in October.

**International Plein Air Paintout Day 2006:** This year GVPAP will celebrate on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Circle of Life:

This month, Chris O'Handley's mom lost her brief battle with cancer. Chris is our vice president webmaster and meteorologist. Chris is known for his kind soul. He was a comfort to his mother when he visited her during her illness and last days. Anyone desiring to send a card to Chris may mail it to: 1127 Ogden Parma TLR, Spencerport, NY 14559.

### GETTING TO KNOW THE MEMBERS:

This month's artists are **Bob Keim**, Charter Signature Artist Member and **Judy Soprano**, Charter Associate Artist Member.

**Judy Soprano** has worked a long time for her career as an artist. And she is very willing to share her wealth of knowledge with other artists. She is a born teacher, encourager and loves to help new artists feel connected and find solutions. She is a member of several art clubs such as RAC, CNY Watercolor Society and has been the President of Suburban Rochester Art Group. She enjoys oil and watercolor. Judy married her high school sweetheart, Ken and together they raised a very nice family and now enjoy the fun of being grandparents.



During her dual careers as mom and artist, she taught adult education classes at night and opened and closed a gallery. She was the one artist that kept Roselawn Galleries opened for over 20 years. She was the top seller and the gallery could count on one or more of her pieces selling EVERY WEEK. She would never brag about that though.

Judy is a prolific painter and studied with Bernie Gerstner and Charles Gruppe. She perseveres through life's troubles like house moving and a painful back to start and finish pieces. In her more recent career, she has taken many students out plein air painting. She has been painting outdoors since 1980. She is represented by the following galleries: Nan Miller of Rochester, West End in Corning, Red Bird Gallery and Sea Oats Gallery, St. George Island, FL. She will still teach and demonstrates her skills for art clubs.

**Bob Keim** is a painter you can count on. If he says he's coming out to paint, he'll be there -- no matter what! He has also rolled up his sleeves over the years to serve the art clubs he joined. Currently, Bob is active in the Rochester Art Club, Pittsford Art Group and Penfield Art Association where he has been president and has held leadership positions.



He not only paints with our group but paints with the Plein Air Painters of WNY and the All Weather Gang. Bob's photo has been featured several times in the Messenger Post as he was painting beautiful fall scenes. He always has a warm smile and a nice hat on ... and his paintings look like the scene he has been painting so newspaper photographers like to take his picture.

Bob has invested in his talent and has studied with Kevin MacPherson, Ken Backhaus, John Budicin, John Peisley and Tom Buechner to name a few. His pieces catch and hold beautiful light that proves his talent. His work has been displayed at Roselawn Gallery, Mill Gallery and he participates in Pittsford Art Club's rotating shows in the Pittsford Community. Bob still gives demo's to art clubs when asked to do so. Bob and his lovely wife, Jeanette, live in Penfield.

## [Review of David Lussier's Plein Air Workshop](#)

This will be a summary of what was learned recently at the David Lussier Workshop:

1. When choosing a spot to paint, consider what it is about the spot that calls you to paint it. Think about this for a few moments because you need to use the answer as your focal point in the painting.
2. Focal Point: This is the area of the painting that gets the most attention from your painting process. More detail, more contrast with light and dark pigments and maybe even a brighter, warmer color hue. Draw your painting, either with pencil or with thinned pigment. Pay attention to the laws of perspective. Be sure to weed out elements that would make your painting too busy. Less is best.
3. Light and dark pattern: We were asked to block in our compositions with just 2 or 3 values of brown: very dark, very light and a mid-tone. We did this so we could see a interesting pattern. ALSO, this should be done in a thin wash. If you don't have the pattern correct, the finished painting will not be as interesting as desired. We were told to let the block in dry or set up for about 15 minutes.
4. Next, we start to paint color notes. This would be color without any frills added, i.e.; one block of color for the side of a house without concern for shadow or the lightest light on that side of the house.
5. Next, evaluate your colors. You can take artistic liberty to make color changes but don't make color changes that change your value block in.
6. Next comes the frosting on the cake, as you develop the details around the focal point and add cast shadows and patterns of sunshine to the entire painting. You can add broken color to that side of the house, maybe around the windows or under the eave of the house. Broken color is a color lighter or darker than the original color note. It can even be a different color. It adds interest. When at this stage, you should be loading your brush with plenty of mixed color to apply without picking up the thinner colors underneath.
7. We were also encouraged to draw everyday. This helps our eye to see. When drawing, it not good enough to just get the lines in. Do the shading, the values with the pencil. We should try to have a portable sketch kit in our cars. Something like a small zippered bag that holds a #2 and #3 pencils, a small spiral sketchbook, an X-acto knife to sharpen pencils and a kneaded eraser. Optional would be a sandpaper stump to form the point of the pencil the way you want.

## [The Plein Air Painter's Course In Preparedness Pt 2:](#)

### **[The Sun and Medicine May Not Mix](#)**

Protecting Your Body: Did you know the bright sunshine we all love to paint can cause a *Phototoxic Reaction* from oral medicine? You may get a dangerously severe sunburn that may result in a trip to the hospital emergency room. The meds to pay special attention to are in the cardiac and anti-depressant category – you may burn up like a lobster if you are in the sun! If you routinely take heart or anti-depressant medicine or if you take certain drugs like penicillin, you should call or ask your pharmacist about extra precautions to take when out in the sun.

In all cases, we should always wear sun block (30+SPF) on our skin and lips. Don't use old or expired products. Buy new. Buy Aloe gel, Hydrocortisone cream and Ibuprofen to help if you do get too much sun.

Clothing companies are producing clothes that have sun blocking capabilities. Look on line for coolibar.com, cabanalife.com, solarwaveusa.com, sunfriendlyproducts.com, shadyladyproducts.com and lioninthesun.com as well as Target.com, eddiebauer.com and LLbean.com also. For your own clothing, SunGuard (made by Rit Dye and available locally) can be added to the washing machine at a reasonable cost providing protection for up to 20 washes. Of course, buy GVPAP sun visors with dark under bills for eye protection!

**[Deadline for August E-LETTER is July 24th.](#)** [No Newsletter in July.](#)

Send plein air info to Brande Arno at [artistbrande@msn.com](mailto:artistbrande@msn.com)

**WEBSITE:** [WWW.GVPAP.COM](http://WWW.GVPAP.COM) Check out the new photos.