



LCAL.org | 501c3 | lakecoartleague@gmail.com

Member News

April 2023

The LCAL's goal for our newsletters is for their design to compliment the pamphlets that we create for our shows; artists can flip through them for a live sense of the energy and focus of our organization.

Suggestions regarding our latest design changes are welcomed.

From Chris Tanner: **How the LCAL Got its Start**

Ever wonder why a handful of artists decided to start an art league in 1934 in the depths of the Depression? Here's what I found printed on a wall entering a related show in the Smithsonian Institute's portrait gallery last month.

"The 1930s was a heady time for artists in America. Through President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs, the federal government paid them to paint and sculpt and urged them to look to the nation's land and people for subjects. For the next decade - until World War II brought support to a halt - the country's artists captured the beauty of the landscape, the industry of America's working people, and a sense of community shared in towns large and small in spite of the Great Depression.

"Roosevelt's pledge to help 'the forgotten man' also embraced America's artists. The Public Works of Art Project (PWAP) enlisted artists to capture 'the American Scene' in art that would embellish public buildings across the country. Although it lasted less than one year (Dec 1933 to Jun 1934), the PWAP employed thousands of artists, giving them an important role in the country's recovery. Their legacy, captured in more than 15,000 artworks, helped 'the American Scene' become 'America seen.'

Deb Edmunds also did some research and here is her report:

"The art league was conceived and was started in October 1934 in Waukegan. After searching the census of 1930 and 1940, I found some of the answers about who Mrs. TWF Davies was. To my surprise, she was really Mrs. JWF Davies (Cora). In 1930, she and her clergyman husband, Pastor JWF Davies, lived in Winnetka. Both were in their 50's and both were college educated and known as "freethinkers." Cora was a college teacher who also painted. Soon after, they relocated to Waukegan on 334 N. Utica. Although that home still exists, the street was renamed Martin Luther King Dr.

James WF Davies most likely had been offered a position as pastor at First Congregational Church on Grand Ave. Cora possibly wanted to share her knowledge of art, so she formed the art league to have comradery with other artists in the area. Her husband had been given credit for founding The Winnetka Community House, a place for the community to hold events and enjoy activities of all kinds. I am sure she must have missed having the challenges and joy that Winnetka gave them, so the art league was a way to continue contributing to their community through the arts."

Questions? Contact Chris Tanner at 847-340-0275 or chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net.

Recent and Upcoming Shows

1. Les Scott: **Artwork at the Blue Moon Gallery**

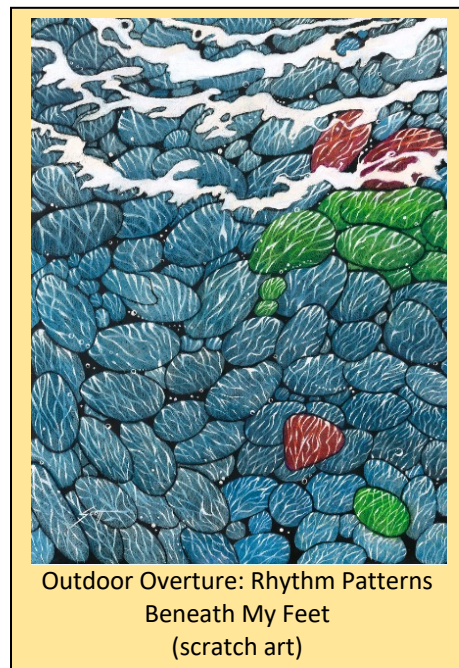
I'm featuring my recent pieces at the Blue Moon Gallery on April 22nd from 6pm to 9pm (one of my pieces is shown to the right). The Gallery is also open most Saturdays and Sundays, 1pm to 4pm.

Other artists will be showing their work as well. The show will last till May 14th.

Location: The gallery is located at 18620 Hwy 120 in Grayslake, IL, east of Hwy 45, next to Farmers Insurance on the north side of 120. www.thebluemoongallery.com

Hope to see you there! And please let your friends and relatives know about the show!

Questions? Contact Les Scott at 224-610-0682 or les.scratchart@yahoo.com.



2. Phil Schorn:

Starline Factory

March ended with a good showing at the Starline Factory's 4th Friday show in Harvard. I was awarded 1st place for my rendering "It's 5 Somewhere". This is the third time I have been awarded with either Best of Show or 1st Place in my last 3 shows at the Starline. I'm on a roll!

Kaneland Community Fine Arts Festival

April 16, from 11am-5pm, I will be in Maple Park for the Kaneland Community Fine Arts Festival. Along with several other artists I will be showing my art and doing a drawing demonstration.

Location: Kaneland High School, 47W326 Keslinger Road, Maple Park.

Art in the Garage

April 29 & 30 from 10am-5pm is my 4th Annual "Art in the Garage" Show and Sale, this is my kick-off show before the summer season.

Location: The event will be at my home in Grayslake. Corner of Leeward & Lexington, across from Meadowview School; look for the white tent.

Questions? Contact Phil Schorn at 847-421-7925 or phil@pschornstudio.com.



Recent and Upcoming Shows, cont.

3. Ernest J Schweit:

One-Man Show at Black Lung Brewing Company

I am very excited to announce that a select number of my images will be featured in a one-man show at the Black Lung Brewing Company in Round Lake Beach from during the month of June. A big thank you to president and head brewer Joshua C. Grubbs for hosting my work.

I plan to show recent work from my Arizona landscape portfolio, several Midwest barn images, and copies of my book, "Wisconsin Barns". All work will be available for purchase. The barn images have not been shown publicly for more than a year, and are being made available exclusively at this show.

The unveiling is scheduled for 3pm to 7 pm, June 6

Location: Black Lung Brewing Co. (www.blacklungbrewing.com), 2217 N. IL Rt. 83, Round Lake Beach.

If you are a beer drinker, Joshua will be offering \$1 off draft pints during the unveiling. I hope to see you there!

Two-Day Juried Show at Adler Festival of the Arts

I am also planning to show work at the 42nd annual Adler Festival of the Arts, a 2-day juried show in Cook Park, located in historic downtown Libertyville.

The show runs Aug 5 and 6 and typically attracts an amazing lineup of talented artists showing a wide variety of work. More info is available at www.adlercenter.org/festival-of-the-arts/

Questions: Contact Ernest Schweit at: www.ejschweit.com

4. Clarese Ornstein:

I sold a pastel piece at the Shire artist reception in March.

I also have a mixed media piece that is in the juried show at the Blue Moon Gallery thru April 16th, "It's Not All Black and White" show.

Questions? Contact Clarese Ornstein at 847-525-7823 or socoro@comcast.net.



More News

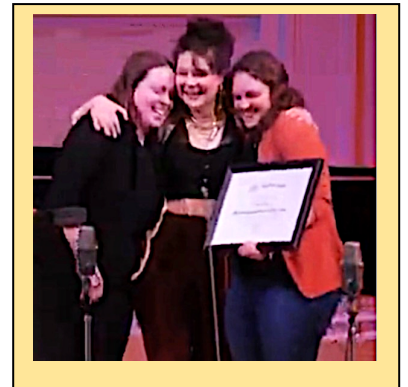
From Fran Isaac: **My Daughter, the Budding Composer**

My daughter, Michelle Isaac, just won first place in the 4th Annual Chicago Song SLAM, an art song contest. I'm just so happy for her!

Michelle is on the right with her winning certificate. With her are the pianist and the soloist. Michelle entered an art song contest with a piece that set to music a poem by a suffragette at the turn of the century. Six other composers entered the contest, and the audience (present and online) voted for their favorite composition.

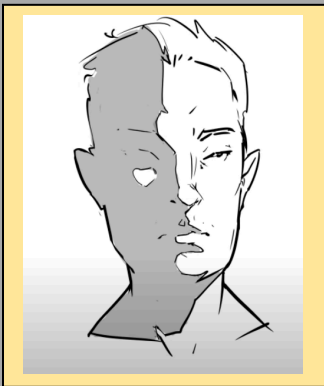
Many of these art songs were somewhat esoteric, sung by operatic voices. Michelle's piece was a poem about a judge pontificating about how absurd it is to give the women the vote because they are so emotional and flighty. The suffragette responds sarcastically that she sat through the judge's diatribe, proving that she was not at all like his description.

Because of the era in which this poem was written, Michelle's music reflected a cowboy rhythm and tone, and the lady's response was short and sweet. Last year her art song took 3rd place.



Questions: Contact Fran Isaac at ac_fmisaac@aol.com

From Debra Edmunds: **Improve Your Art with Better Shadows**



I recommend a 12-minute YouTube Sinix Design video titled "Improve Your Art with Better Shadows." (Just search for that title on your search engine to find the video.)

This is graphic design wisdom for illustrators, but it provides useful insights for all art and is worth revisiting from time to time.

The video starts out with portrait shadows and then goes into shapes.

Questions? Contact Deb Edmunds at 773-230-8068 or edmundsdl@gmail.com.

From Phil Schorn: **It's 5 O'clock Somewhere!**

On 2 April, I was at Two Brothers Brewing & Tap House, for a drawing demo. Before my wife and I finished setting up, there were several people waiting for me to start. I had a great time with all of them and answered questions for almost 2 hours. This is the same class I wrote up as a workshop for the Color Pencil Magazine's upcoming June 2023 issue.