

The Pastel Press
The Newsletter of the Oklahoma Pastel Society
May 2009

Hope you were at the April Oklahoma Pastel Society meeting because Ted Majka's demonstration was excellent! Ted's description of how he approaches a painting was very insightful. And seeing the face of his model gradually appearing was delightful. Thank you, Ted, for presenting such an informative and interesting demo.

May Program by DEBBY KASPARI

Bring a sketchbook and pencil (or pen) so you can sketch/draw along with our guest artist for May – **Debby Kaspari**. We don't know exactly what Debby has planned for the May program but you know it will be special.

Have you looked at Debby's website or checked out her blog lately? If not, you really need to – you see, she's been traveling to some exotic locales like the Amazon rainforest, the far NW Oklahoma stomping grounds of the Lesser Prairie Chickens and the Harvard Forest. Take a few minutes to visit www.debbykaspari.com – you'll be very glad you did!

The May 2009 OPS meeting will be **Monday, May 11th**, at the Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 N.W. 36th Street, in Oklahoma City; the meeting **begins at 6:30 p.m.** If you need directions, please call Sue Ann at 405-330-5467 or email her at sueann1022@cox.net. Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage to enjoy with the snacks which Linda Battles and Trina Lee are providing. Many thanks to Linda and Trina as well as all our other members for providing such yummy refreshments at our meetings!

Future programs and other stuff

Several OPS members have already volunteered to “be” the program for some of our upcoming meetings: Jude Tolar will be demonstrating at the November 2009 meeting (maybe something related to her recent trip to Africa!), we've got feelers out for September and October and Marie Kash Weltzheimer is already scheduled for our February 2010 (!) meeting. Are you interesting in sharing your work, techniques, new pastel stuff, etc., with the group? Then give Jan Hutchinson a call at 405-613-4426.

There's been a slight delay with the embroidery for the OPS aprons BUT it's close to being fixed. (Computers – even in embroidery machines – can have issues and that's what happened.) Janie Schmitz will have an update for us at the May meeting.

Workshop News

Clive Tyler will be teaching workshops here in the Fall (a 3-day workshop on October 5, 6 and 7 and a 2-day on October 9 and 10.) The cost for the 3-day workshop is \$280 for OPS members/\$330 for non-members. The cost for the 2-day workshop is \$220 for OPS members/\$260 for non-members. At this time, weather permitting, will be held outdoors at a wonderful blackberry farm in far-north Edmond. If that changes, you'll be the first to know.

But before Clive is back in the fall, **Jerry Brown** will be teaching his fun, fast and informative one-day Cloud Painting workshop on **Tuesday, May 26th! Cost is only \$75 for this one-day workshop.** The response for Jerry's one-day workshop has been great but there are still several spots available. Please call Janie Schmitz at 943-0330 (leave a message if she's not there) or email Pam Brewer at brewer1127@aol.com to get your name on a place in the workshop. And, while we said that Jerry's workshop would

probably be held at the Sundance Airport, some of our members are scouting OKC for an even larger space. Obviously the location will be decided on soon. So...

How do you hold your place in any (or all!) of these workshops? Easy! For either of **Clive's** workshops, please send a \$100 check, indicating either 3-day or 2-day, payable to OPS, to: OPS, P.O. Box 75696, OKC, OK 73147. And since we're so close to **Jerry's** workshop, please send your \$75 check to that same address. **Make sure you indicate which workshop (or workshops) you're signing up for: Clive Tyler's 3-day Fall 2009 and/or 2-day Fall 2009 workshops OR Jerry Brown's 1-day workshop!**

Sheila Minnich has information about a July 2009 workshop being taught by Canadian pastel artist Dianna Ponting; see Ms. Ponting's website, www.ponting.com, for details about the 3-day workshop being held in Midwest City this summer. Ms. Ponting's work, which is extremely detailed and absolutely stunning, was featured in a recent issue of The Pastel Journal.

Kitty Wallis (yep, of "Wallis Sanded Paper" fame) has some workshops coming up. All the workshops will be her "Wallis Color Intensives – 2009" class. Kitty describes this class: "learn about seeing color, finding attributes of color, using color for impact, to create light and depth. Understand the uses of color in your work. Study your pastel palette – its strengths and weaknesses. And take home at least 30 custom mixed pastel sticks." Classes will be in Littleton CO (May 22-24, Basic Color Intensive, call Kitty at 503-307-1142 or email her at wallixcorp@yaoo.com to register); Santa Cruz CO (July 14-17, Basic Color Intensive, call Cindy at the Santa Cruz Art League or email her at cindy@scal.org) and in Portland OR, September 10-13 (Advanced Color Intensive – advanced painting & pastel-making techniques, call or email Kitty as shown above.)

Other Stuff...

We heard that OPS member **Linda Hiller** was awarded a ribbon (with a cash prize too!) at the recent Edmond Arts Festival. Congratulations!

Sheila Minnich's art is included in the Bus Stop show at City Arts Center. The show, which runs through May 23rd, showcases art that "celebrates the moments and emotions for arriving, departing and waiting for public transportation." Cool!

Have you heard of **Art Perk**? This is a website that helps artists find opportunities to display their works in juried shows and competitions, online shows, art festivals, gallery shows and the like. You can contact them via email at ArtPerkTeam@ArtPerk.com and look at their website at www.ArtPerk.com. And to get your work in front of "thousands of galleries" you might want to look into a new publication "Artist Advocate Magazine." Go to www.artistadvocatemagazine.com to check out their services. You can sign up for their newsletter/blog there too.

Interested in being part of a show in June at **Cynthia Wolf's** Adelante! Gallery in Paseo? Let us know if you are. Cynthia has floated an idea about having an "open show" for OPS members and we need to know if you're interested. So, let Jan, Janie, Donna, Stuart, Pam, Jimi and/or Sue Ann know the meeting, okay? Okay!

The **prospectus for the IAPS 2009 Web Show** has been posted on the IAPS website. Go to www.pastelinternational.com to find all the details. Here the "short version" – Entries to the competition will be digital in format; accepted works will be displayed on the IAPS website for approximately six months. Acceptance and awards both confer points towards IAPS Master Circle status. See the prospectus for prize information, eligible work and entry rules. Deadline for receipt of CDs with images is July 26, 2009.

Make sure you regularly check out the marvelous OPS website OFTEN! Web-guru, **Becky Way**, is always adding fun stuff that you need to see and read to the OPS website. For instance, if you check it out now, you can see works by those who took Clive Tyler's fall 2008 workshops. And if you don't have anything in the Members' Gallery section, email one of your paintings, along with some biographical info, to Becky at beckyway@cox.net so she can add YOUR work to that page. Thanks!

**See you at the meeting:
Monday, May 11, 2009, 6:30 p.m.
Will Rogers Garden Center
Demo by DEBBY COTTER KASPARI!**

**And check out the OPS website too:
www.okpastel.org**

**Oops! Nearly forgot –
Dues are due!**

Mail your check for \$30, payable to OPS to
P.O. Box 75696
Oklahoma City, OK 73147
Our dues are due on or before June 1st.
Thanks!