Studio Group, Inc. 1305 North Franklin Street Wilmington, DE 19806 302-656-7304



Siv Spurgeon, Editor February 2011

# **February Schedule**

Thursday, February 3
General Membership Meeting
Deliver RED paintings for Loop Night
and Hang Loop Night

Friday, February 4 Loop Night featuring **Michele Foster** and **RED** paintings by the members

<u>Thursday, February 10</u> - full day **Sandi Lovitz**:

Bright acrylic painting on Plexiglas. See supply list on back page. Monitors: Davis-Glackin and Neidhardt

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>February 17</u> - half day **John Hannafin**:

John will talk about his painting as well as his marketing skills and techniques. Monitors: Anderson and James

Thursday, February 24
Bus Trip to Baltimore to visit the
American Craft Council Show

#### **March Schedule**

Wednesday, March 2
Deliver paintings for Loop Night

Thursday, March 3
Hang for Loop Night

<u>Friday, March 4</u> Loop Night featuring **Marjean Willett** Celebrating Howard Pyle's birthday

<u>Thursday, March 10</u> - half day & lunch **Nanette Noone**:

Landcsape in Soft Pastel & Watercolor Monitor: Zolper

<u>Thursday, March 17</u> - half day & lunch **Nanette Noone**:

Figure in Soft Pastel Monitor: Thomforde

Thursday, March 24 - full day Kass Morin Freeman Critique Monitor: Moise

Wednesday, March 30 Deliver for Loop Night

Thursday, March 31 Hang for Loop Night

# Michele Madinabeitia Foster, Featured Artist



"Ashland Pond," Pastel and Acrylic by Michele Madinabeitia Foster

Paint, Paper and Pastel

Over the past few years, I have slowly incorporated more than one medium into my artwork. I usually use at least two different ones in a painting. And now I also use a still life or photo for reference, instead of my pure imagination.

My favorite paint is acrylic. When I am doing a textured painting on a canvas, I will mix the paint with gesso. Sometimes I paint with molding paste to give the canvas different layers of texture. Things like eggshells, leaves, copper, glitter or tissue paper are also added to the canvas with binder medium. This adds visual interest and gives me exciting effects. Then I add my vibrant colors of acrylic paint and complete the composition. As a last touch, I will highlight areas with gold or silver metallic paint.

To create a collage, I think of a theme and choose board or paper for the base. After collecting photos, pictures, type from magazines and newspapers, and pieces of my old paintings on paper, I begin the collage. Newspaper words and bold letters from a magazine page work well to add special messages and excitement to the art piece.

To begin a pastel painting, I usually paint on a board with acrylic paint. I will either use a dark or light value as a base for the background undercoat. Then I apply pastel to complete the subject matter. Often the acrylic from the background will show through the pastel. This creates engaging effects for the viewer.

Whatever medium I choose to work with, I love to create art for the tranquility and peace of mind it gives me. I hope you enjoy one of my creations!

# Our Visit to John Supplee's Home and Studio

Submitted by Kathy Ruck

The Studio Group enjoyed a visit to the home and studio of West Chester artist John Supplee on January 6th. John gave us a tour of his beautiful home (built in 1846!), pausing at each of his paintings to tell us of his thoughts and inspirations for each. He displayed photos of the paintings from his last exhibit "Subject to Change," and answered our questions.

Our tour took us up to the 3rd floor of his home where we were greatly impressed by his vast collection of art books. John then escorted us to his studio – a converted garage in his back yard. There he spoke of the methods he uses to achieve his exquisite paintings.

John paints in acrylics on panels or linen panels that he prepares himself with linen fabric mounted to wood boards with gesso, on which he applies his signature gesso handprint on the back. His paintings portray the contrast between nature and the man-made with bold strokes, texture and a use of color that gives his paintings a luminosity that delights the eye.

John perceives how our world is constantly "subject to change" and to quote him: "Our culture values and preserves its paintings, which, as their subjects fade over time, often become the final arbiters of their own truth."

Following our visit to John's, several of our group met at Limencello for the Italian Lunch Buffet. Our thanks go out to Roe Murray and Beth Bobey for planning this wonderful day for us.

# The Year of Howard Pyle: Return from New York

Submitted by Pat Zolper.

Prim. Source: Henry Pitz: Howard Pyle 1975

From 1876 to 1879, Howard Pyle had the opportunity to study and pursue publishing contacts in New York City. Among the American artists and illustrators that he met were Edwin A. Abbey, Winslow Homer and Arthur B. Frost. Pyle's previous Wilmington exposure to illustrators had been through reproductions of European masters and the local talent of Claymont artist, Felix A.O. Darley.

In 1881, having returned to Wilmington, Pyle married Anne Poole. By 1883, Pyle had repaid his father the funds advanced for his New York study. He purchased a tract of land on North Franklin Street and planned a studio in the style of a Tudor Cottage. In 1884 he was listed as a teacher of Illustration at Drexel University, having been turned down by the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. The teaching of Illustration was deemed not worthy of PAFA. Pyle sought students with basic art skills already mastered. His teaching was to include a recurrent theme so important to him. IMAGINATION. "Put your heart into your picture and then jump in afterwards."

# Sandy Lovitz Supply List

- · Hair dryer
- Acrylic paint in tubes: Must have titanium white. Any colors are good but make sure to have some opaque and some transparent coverage
- Pourable liquid acrylics: No white but any other colors, some opaque, some transparent
- Plastic containers for water
- Deco pen: extra fine and fine in black
- Brushes
- Small sponge roller
- Anything sharp to make marks with (nails, old dental tools, use your imagination); this is stuff you have around your house
- · Rubber gloves for applying paint
- · Old toothbrushes
- · Soda or water bottles for pouring
- Paper towels
- Plexiglas: (available at Home Depot.)
   Cut to smaller sizes for experimentation.
   You will have a couple of pieces going at once to allow for dry time.

### **New Address**

**Norma Day** has moved to a new home. Her new address is 4031 Kennett Pike, #170, Wilmington, DE 19807. Her phone number and email address remain the same.



Our president Diane Cannon with John Supplee during the tour of his studio.

#### Reminders

**Parking**: Please remember to leave the parking space next to the dumpster for the guest program presenter. It is near the back gate and easy to explain to those not familiar with our parking situation.

Locking Doors: Please remember to lock all doors when leaving! We all need to pretend to be absent minded professors and go back twice to check that all the doors are locked. If you are leaving one building to go to the other for even a short period of time, please lock the door behind you.

**Phone Tree**: Please, if you leave a message, also call the next person on the list. It is important that everyone is notified. When a message is left, there is no way of knowing if the person is out of town, or unable to access their phone or machine.

**Monitor Duties**: It is no longer necessary to shut off the hot water heater at the end of the day.

## Philip Jamison Exhibition

The Philip Jamison Exhibition at Chester County Art Association is open until March 4th. His small watercolor gems are all framed alike with wide mats. They have never been shown before. He painted them in Maine twenty years ago, put them in a portfolio, and in his words they were "just squirreled away until now".

His last exhibition was in 2002, and this is the first time he has had a show at CCAA. If you go to the exhibit, a small booklet with images from the exhibit and many interesting facts and quotes by Jamison is available for purchase at \$5.00.

## "Get Well" Wishes

Our wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to Kathleen Kreuzberger, who is recovering from valve repair surgery.

#### Members' News

Anna Bellenger's painting "The Bird - Bankscape #6 - August" was accepted in the American Watercolor Society's 144th Annual International Exhibition. Her painting "Come To The Fall Bug Fair" won First Place at The Diamond State Pen Women's Biennial.

**Diane Cannon** won an Honorable Mention in the Chester County Art Association Abstract Exhibition.

**Nancy James** currently has an exhibit of 29 of her oil, pastel, and watercolor paintings at Kendal. The exhibit runs to the end of February.

**Pat Zolper** will have a show titled "The Nurturing Sea" at the Delaware Center for Horticulture, February 4 through February 25. The reception is being held as part of the "Wilmington Art on the Town" on Friday, February 4th.

## N.C. Wyeth Exhibition

Brandywine River Museum has a wonderful N.C. Wyeth exhibit of his Civil War paintings that will be there until March 20th. The exhibition also features 11 Winslow Homer wood engravings and some wonderful Pyle illustrations. There are also some watercolors in the Andrew Wyeth Gallery that haven't been shown before.

## **Alice Dustin Workshop**

As many of you know by now, Alice Dustin is an artist in ways other than on her canvas. To enjoy a first hand view of her skill as a trapeze artist, find "Big Top Dreams, Newsworks" using Google, and play the video titled "Defying limits at any age."



Alice Dustin during the demonstration of a still life oil painting.

# **RED February Show**

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, please bring paintings where RED is an important element for the February Loop Night exhibit. Carol is thinking Chocolate Desserts for this pre-Valentine reception!