



# Floral Park Art League

NEWSLETTER

February 2010

## March 1st Demo - Mary Ann Heinzen

**Mary Ann Heinzen** is a full time, Rockland artist working primarily in watercolor for over thirty years. She will be giving a floral demonstration in watercolor.

Her work has been exhibited throughout the New York, metropolitan area, receiving awards from the Northeast Watercolor Society, the Long Island Museum, the Salmagundi Club in Manhattan, the Roslyn Museum of Art, National Association of Women Artists and the National Art League in Douglaston, New York, among others.



Ms. Heinzen works in both representational and abstract styles, where her use of light, contrast and color combine to create dynamic and bold visual statements. Painting plein-aire, whenever possible, she strives to capture a sense of experiencing the landscape, rather than a photographic image. Shapes and patterns are a unifying

theme of this water-media, Hudson Valley artist. Ms Heinzen's work can be recognized by her strong use of color and light, and a unifying theme of the underlying patterns and geometries and designs found in the natural world.

Ms. Heinzen also teaches and demonstrates her technique for various art groups on Long Island, New Jersey and Rockland. Recently, she has joined a newly formed program "Artists in the Park", painting within the Palisades Parklands.

## Opportunity for Sales

*Vanderbilt Mansion + Planetarium + Museum, Centerport, NY*

*2010 Vanderbilt Museum Independence Festival – July 4<sup>th</sup> 12-5 PM*

One 10x10 space for one day: Prime Location \$100 \* Regular Location \$75

The Independence Festival has space for a small number of vendors (25-30). They would like to have a wide variety of materials available to sell. They are interested in having antiques, crafts and fine art. The vendors' fair is not the only event happening that day. There will be a great deal going on to draw crowds. An application for participation must be submitted by April 1, 2010. For an application, or further information, please call Emily Gittelman at 631-854-5555 or contact her on-line at [vanderfest@googlemail.com](mailto:vanderfest@googlemail.com)

## February Demo



A gifted artist, an entertaining raconteur, a master of repartee, and a thoroughly entertaining teacher! Who was this amazing person? Where was this amazing person?

If you were lucky enough to be at the Floral Park Art League, Monday, February first, you were among the audience, enjoying the presentation of Kirk Larsen, our demonstrator for the evening.

Capturing the audience from the start, Kirk asked them to choose the subject of his work for the evening. This was to be an oil painting, made from one of Kirk's

photos of a scene on the North Shore. After some involved gymnastics things were set up, and the show went on.

Kirk spoke of the importance of working on location to, "capture how you feel, in that moment, in that place." He spoke of the need to do your sketch quickly, "If I don't know where I'm going in thirty seconds, I'll take thirty more. If you go back to your sketch you'll know where you are going, from the start."

He advised not to sit while painting, to keep a running dialogue going while you work, and honor your inner voice, which often will find you an answer before your conscious mind does. He checked values constantly, testing, trying. A point he stressed was to work quickly, get the spirit of what you are portraying.

All of this went on with a constant flow of wonderful tips, entertaining stories, and banter back and forth.

Mr. Larsen brought several of his works with him, and set some aside from which the lucky raffle winner, Robert Rouge could choose.

This was truly a memorable evening.

*Submitted by Pat Lee*



## Juried Competition - NYRA Art Competition

In conjunction with our Juried Art Show on May 3<sup>rd</sup> the NYRA will hold a separate painting competition "The Equestrian" where members of the Floral Park Art League will submit any artwork that features a horse or horses. The artwork does not have to be of racing horses (although it could be). A landscape with a horse or horses would also be appropriate. On Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> an Official from the NYRA will award a "Certificate of Recognition" to the winner and their painting will hang at the Clubhouse of Belmont Park for the season. The Juried Art Competition will be separate from "The Equestrian" and the winner of either would not be effected by the other.

Only members will be able to participate in either one or both of these competitions. If anyone is interested in joining, please call for an application. Call either Lillian Forziat at 516-775-3523 or Eileen Stattel at 516-352-7327. If you are not a member, an application with appropriate fees must be received by March 30, 2010. More information about these events and applications for them will be available in the March newsletter..

## We are Happy to Announce



Through the tireless efforts of both Theresa Mussolino, our president, and Robert Rouge, a member of FPAL and newly appointed Vice President, have been able to work with the NYRA (New York Racing Association) in having them sponsor the Spring Show at Memorial Park. This accomplishment has enabled us to have them work with us in providing advertising materials and the promoting our Spring Show at Memorial Park on June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (10 AM to 4 PM). This is the weekend of the Belmont Stakes and hopefully we should attract more buyers to this site.

With this endorsement the coverage will be included in the local papers and we will have the endorsement and support of the NYRA.

Additionally, a banner will be produced to acknowledge this endorsement. We would add the NYRA Logo to a Banner or any Flyers or advertising we do for the event. Robert will arrange for photos to be taken with the NYRA. If anyone would like to work on the Publicity, your help would be appreciated.

A web site will be forthcoming in the next few weeks so that current news and opportunities for sales and competitions can be more current.

Only members will be able to participate in the Spring Show. If anyone is interested in joining, please call for an application. Call either Lillian Forziat at 516-775-3523 or Eileen Stattel at 516-352-7327. If you are not a member, an application with appropriate fees must be received by March 30, 2010.



## Crisis of Confidence

Lately I've been studying the plight of several painters who claim to be having a "crisis of confidence." All of them began painting in their youth, sold work in their teens, had at least one hyper-critical parent, enjoyed moderate success with their art, and now find themselves, in mid life, "losing it."

While there are variations in their styles, media and techniques, all three suffer from indecision, dissatisfaction and overworking. All are having trouble finishing, signing, and getting work off to shows or galleries.

I'm not going to dwell on all the possible reasons. Suffice to say they may include too many works under the belt, knowing too much, thinking too much, lack of joy in life, the misplacement or loss of the inner child, the feeling of never being satisfied, health issues, economic pointlessness, boredom and other depressing thoughts.

A thorough vacuuming is nevertheless in order.

Here's a little program that can play out over a week or so: Line up a hundred or so small inexpensive panels, papers or canvases and have them ready to go. Give yourself a more limited palette--perhaps half your normal range. Put all reference material and prior works out of sight. If this is not possible, work in a new environment such as a hotel room or friend's cottage. In preparation for starting the program, bring yourself to a mentally uncluttered, dream-like state. Now, over a relatively short period of time, fill the first support with a limited number of strokes. Get your subject matter from the deep well of your memory. Don't finish, move on to the next. Even though you may consider yourself a real pro, try not to lean on what you know,

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## Detailed directions to the American Legion Hall from the Cross Island Parkway

**From Cross Island Parkway** - Exit Jamaica Ave., Jericho Tpke., East. Make a right on 25 (Jericho Tpke).

Go approximately 1 mile to **S Tyson Ave.** Make a right and go 2 blocks to **Elizabeth Ave.**,

make a left. The American Legion Hall is a white building, #15, directly across from the John Lewis Childs Elementary School's main entrance. Remember, we will gather for refreshments at 7:30 followed by the demo.

## Happenings of the FPAL - March 2010- June 2010

March 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Meeting &amp; Demo</b> - Mary Ann Heinzen - Floral Watercolor American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth St., Floral Park – 7:30
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Meeting &amp; Demo</b> - Bart DeCeglie - Oil Painting American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth St., Floral Park – 7:30
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Juried Competition</b> American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth St., Floral Park – 7:30
June 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Annual Spring Show &amp; Sale</b> – 10 AM – 4 PM Centennial Park, Corner of Tulip & Plainfield Ave., Floral Park

### Not a Member?

If you know of someone who is not presently a member of the FPAL and might wish to become one, please ask them to come with you to the March demo

## Welcome to New Members

We'd like to welcome Flora Allen of Bay Shore who has recently joined the Flora Park Art League. We are looking forward to her coming to our March meeting.

## Crisis of Confidence (continued from page 3)

Don't finish, move on to the next. Even though you may consider yourself a real pro, try not to lean on what you know, but rather take yourself back and try to paint as if you were four years old. For some folks, this can be mighty difficult. Persist. Keep in mind that the exercise has nothing to do with creating great art, but is rather a ruse to free yourself from an all too common crisis. You'll be temporarily re-routing tried-and-true habits and exchanging them with temporary new ones. The program is based on, "If what you're doing right now isn't pleasing you, try something else." Anything goes. For the sake of the program, the wilder the better--the more childlike you are, the more confident and fresh your regular work will become.

**Esoterica:** Here are a few predictions: The first few attempts will be filled with timidity and resistance. But because there are so darned many of them, you'll find the middle ones getting more and more cursory and loose. Then, toward the end, you'll feel yourself tightening up and incorporating some of your treasured knowledge. At the very end you'll become thoroughly wild and unruly, partly in the knowledge that the program will soon be over, and partly because you have learned something and know that you could go on like this forever. Some pieces you'll want to frame. If you do, that won't be bad either.

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### FPAL Officers

President:	Theresa Musolino	516 775-3395.	Vice President	Robert Rouge	516-328-8160
Treasurer:	Lillian Forziat	516 354-0179	Asst. Treasurer:	Cliff Forziat	516-354-0179
Prog. Chr.	Open		Secretary	Eileen Stattel	516 352-7327
Show Chr.	Pat DiComo	516 775-0553	Hostess:	Dorothy Webster	516 239-3202
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