

This issue:

Member News	p.2
AIP Show Update	p.3
Meeting Recap	p.5
Spotlight	p.6
Behind the Brush	p.7



Editor: Anni Matsick
Design: Yelena Lamm
Production:
 Beth O'Neill
 Zach Beresh



Seeing Red

With the entire world turning their eyes to Russia in anticipation of the Winter Olympic games at Sochi, **Steve Cup** joined the multitudes across the globe drawing attention to the controversy over Russia's antigay laws with this new promotional piece. As part of his seasonal marketing campaign, this image and others were mailed out to editorial art directors across the country.

My Spot

Anni Matsick

It's always great to have a reason to visit the 'Burgh. So I welcomed the invitation to present a lunchtime talk at Art Institute of Pittsburgh, in a series organized by their Gallery Coordinator to run during PSI's *Art For a Hire Purpose* exhibit in August. The juried show, hung salon style in the two-stories-high gallery in the historic former Equitable Gas Building downtown, was an impressive collection. Included were those just beginning their careers to well established "names," combined for a definitive event in our organization's history. The **show** will continue online. For a full report on the four members' talks given this month, see page 3.



Another type of "show" was carried out by a member demonstrating her skills in pastels not far away in Shadyside, at another early 1900s architectural treasure. August's Spotlight on page 6 covers the workshop held in that luxurious structure.

One of AIP's accomplished instructors was host and Featured Artist for July's Business of Illustration meeting. He shared examples of freelance work spanning his long and successful career. Page 5 carries the story.

If you're not taking advantage of the BOI meetings, you're missing out on a valuable perk of PSI membership. See who's speaking at the next one on our website or on page 5 and plan to meet your fellow members there, old and new!

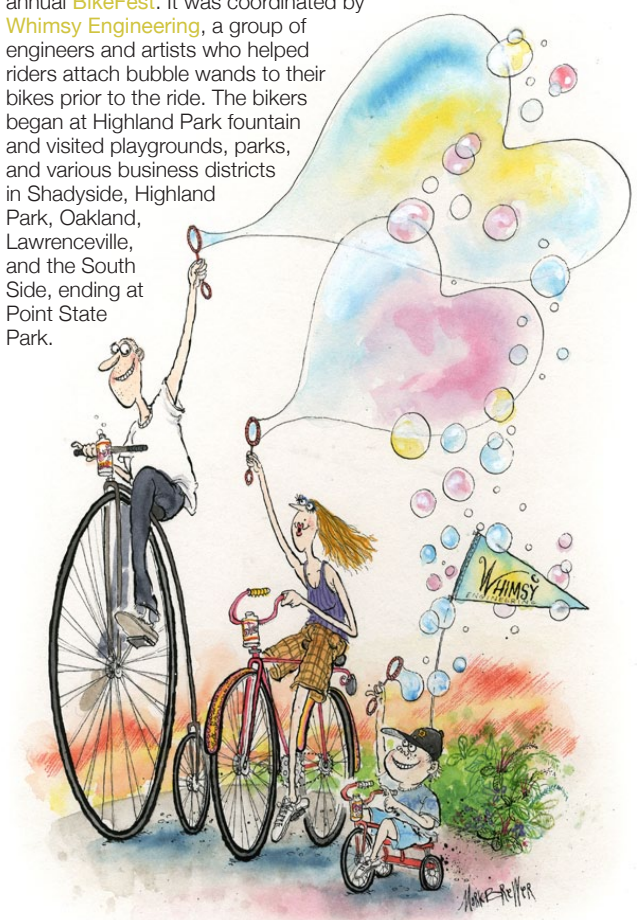
Benign Beasties

Three illustrations were created by **Abby Diamond** for the 2013 issue of Discover magazine, for a feature article entitled "The Urban Bestiary." The illustrations, done in ink and nib pen, watercolor and marker, were styled to look like medieval bestiary illuminations. The article debunks myths and misinformation about the critters (i.e., squirrels, opossums, moles, pigeons, and rats) that live in our cities. The issue is currently on newsstands; "It's a good read!" Abby says. The others appear on page 7.



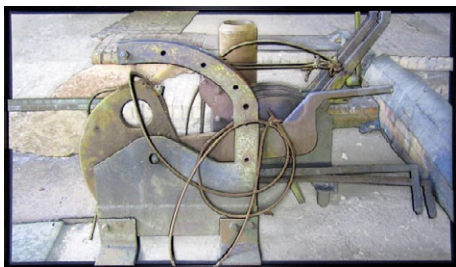
Bubbles Trail

This poster illustration was done by **Mark Brewer** for the first *Bubbles On Bikes Jamboree Ride*. The event was held August 11, beginning at 4 pm as a part of Pittsburgh's annual **BikeFest**. It was coordinated by **Whimsy Engineering**, a group of engineers and artists who helped riders attach bubble wands to their bikes prior to the ride. The bikers began at Highland Park fountain and visited playgrounds, parks, and various business districts in Shadyside, Highland Park, Oakland, Lawrenceville, and the South Side, ending at Point State Park.



On Exhibit

June Edwards is exhibiting current work at Slippery Rock University in the Martha Gault Art Gallery. The opening reception is Tuesday, September 3 from 5 to 8 pm, and the show runs through Friday, September 20. The mixed media compositions are based on photographs of abandoned industrial architecture, primarily from the Carrie Furnace Works. "I cut apart and combine parts of many structures into intricate and sometimes dimensional arrangements, and enhance the colors and textures with ink and watercolor," June says. "My work is a tribute to what is left of old technology and function, an expression of sadness for what we once had that is no longer there."



This painting was done as a demonstration in watercolor by **Bill Vrscak** during a neighborhood festival on August 6, sponsored by the Bellevue police force. "It's something they do every year to encourage neighbors to get out and meet and greet and promote friendly relations," Bill says. "I don't know if that works but my experience tells me that when a local cop calls and asks you for a favor it's a good idea not to turn him down." The image is 18x24 and was done from separate photos taken of the subjects sitting in Market Square some years ago. Bill titled it, "Just Two of the Guys."



"Girl in White Hat," an 11x14 watercolor by **Anni Matsick**, received Honorable Mention in the Clinton County Art Council's *Juried 2-D Fine Arts Exhibit* at The Train Station Gallery in Lock Haven, which ran July 12-27. Juror for awards was Raymond Hefner, Art Dept. Head at Lock Haven University. The subject is based on a photo of **James Elston's** daughter, Olivia.



Nicole Ryan had a solo exhibit at **Gateway Lodge** in Cook Forest August 9 through August 23.



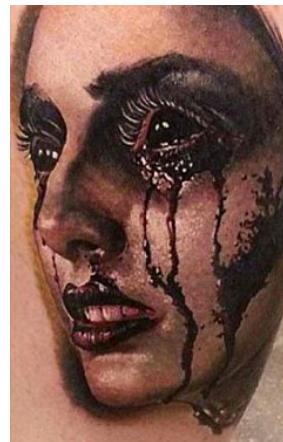
"Scarlet Magic," an 11x15 work in watercolor, pen and ink by **Patty Lipinski**, was created for the Light Space & Time Online Art Gallery's August 2013 Art Exhibition, *Botanicals*. Artists applied by submitting their best botanical and floral art for regional and international exposure. There were 704 entries from 26 countries and 41 states of which 122 were accepted. The exhibit was juried by John Math, Art Gallery Director and Patty received a Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Art. Patty's entry appears on page 74 in the catalog, currently on view [online](#).

Kudos

Vince Dorse celebrated his award-winning online comic's one-year anniversary on August 14 with the commission of this 21-inch needle-felted wool fiber sculpture of *Untold Tales of Bigfoot's* title character, created by Michelle at: runredrun.com. See more photos and read full details [here](#).



Sarah Miller won five trophies at the *Live Free or Die 2013 Tattoo Expo* July 26-28 in Manchester, New Hampshire, including 1st Place Best Horror Color Artist. Watch Sarah get a tattoo on the Tuesday, September 3 episode of **Spike TV's Ink Master!**



Books

Wilson and Bella's Big Apple Adventure!, **Susan Castriota's** fifth book in the Willie Wilson's Wondrous Tales series, is about her dog Bella going to NYC to be on a TV show, seeking fame and fortune. Wilson and his pack of friends set out to search all of the New York City hot spots in hopes of finding their friend. In each, they find Bella has gone on to the next spot, but left a clue behind. FAO Schwarz and Macy's have given permission to be featured in the book which will be released this fall. Stay clued-in at: www.wilsongetsadopted.com

The book imitates real life since Susan and Bella traveled to New York City on August 24 to appear on *Fox & Friends weekend show*.



Out and About

Frances Halley will attend the *Folk Art Society of America's 26th Annual Conference* in Raleigh, NC which will take place October 3-7. To learn more about it, [click here](#).

Art for a Hire Purpose Exhibition

Our July 15-August 28 show at Art Institute of Pittsburgh can be seen [online](#).



"Can't tell you how many students, staff and faculty have said this was one of their favorite shows they've seen at the AIP Gallery. They keep returning and seeing new images they had missed. So proud to have the opportunity to show off our PSI group to the AIP community."

Mark Bender, AIP Faculty



Facebook Mention

Each of the following members, in order listed, were featured as an artist of the day in Z Brand Group's Z Pittsburgh Artist Showcase on their Facebook page in July and through August 7: **Rhonda Libbey, Taylor Gallery, Steve Cup, Vince Dorse, Stacy Innerst, Kit Paulsen, Anni Matsick, Craig Jennion, David Pohl and Rick Antolic.**

Kurt Shaw Review in The Trib

"As visitors will see, in each category, the illustrators have brought forth their unique visual voices that communicate to a specific audience."

Kurt Shaw, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

An article on the show written by Kurt Shaw, critic for Trib Total Media, appeared in the Saturday, August 10 issue of the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review and can be viewed [online](#). In it, he quotes PSI's past president, **Fred Carlson** about the organization and Fred's own work. Kurt also cites entries by **John Blumen, Rick Antolic, Ilene Winn-Lederer, Ashley Cecil, Mike Malle and Rick Henkel.**



AIP Noontime Talks Series: Art For a Hire Purpose exhibit brought to life!

In conjunction with PSI's *Art For a Hire Purpose* exhibit, four participants in the show were invited to speak in a 12:30 pm lunchtime series, *PSI Artist Talks*, for Art Institute of Pittsburgh students, faculty and staff. It was organized by **Maura Doern-Danko**, Lead Faculty, Humanities, General Education Department and Gallery Coordinator. The 30-to-45 minute talks were given in AIP's beautiful Gallery, surrounded by the artwork on exhibit through August 28. Participating artists were **Anni Matsick, Ashley Cecil, Kit Paulsen and Karl Huber**. The titles are listed below along with highlights from each presentation.

August 15:

"Don't Fudge the Hands! the importance of good drawing skills"

First in the series was **Anni Matsick**, who stressed the need for a sound base by practicing



ing drawing from life as well as photo references. Anni opened her PowerPoint presentation with a sample from her first known series of self-portraits done at age three, drawn in blue ink throughout a Golden Book titled *Busy Timmy*, of herself joining the character in his activities.

Another image of a piece which hangs in the show, "Manhattan Studio," was cited as an example of a watercolor done from a photo in a portrait exchange online, contrasted with some of her figure drawings done from live models. "You can't work from photos this well without having a background in real-life," she emphasized. Anni displayed three watercolor paintings of children

she calls "crossovers" that were accepted into juried art shows, proving that illustrative artwork can hold a fine arts aesthetic.

Anni's last image showed the cover of July's PSInside as she spoke about its relevancy for students, a "treasure trove" of talent from those who comprised the exhibit surrounding them. She pointed out the archive on PSI's website where issues can be downloaded, and recommended the "In Touch with..." series of 36 artist interviews as a resource, in issues January 2009 through December 2011.

Included in her audience was **Mark Bender**, an AIP instructor, and students from his Graphic Illustration class. Also attending was **Kit Paulsen** whose presentation was scheduled for the following week. Afterward, Anni and Kit were invited to Mark's classroom in Room 432 where a project that called for separating their images into layers on tissue was in progress. They went around the room viewing the impressive work as each student shared comments about their own.

"Thank you for taking the time to inspire our students and share your story. I seem to see so much of artists' work on-line, that I forget how wonderful it is to see a group of originals in person. Just a beautifully descriptive technique. The students were so thrilled that you and Kit took the time to stop up and see some of their work. Those little moments can carry some weight to a group of young artists when it comes from a pro."

Mark Bender, AIP Faculty

August 20:

"A Career in the Arts: One Artist's 360° View"

Next on the bill was PSI's Vice President, **Ashley Cecil**, who gave a fast-paced and exciting overview of how she has balanced a dual career in the arts - one as an artist; the other as an arts administrator.



The presentation was broken into two parts: The first was focused on fine art and illustration (Ashley's portrait commission work for private clients, the packaging illustration job she is currently working on for a bourbon drink bottle, and surface/textile design).

The second part was focused on her work in arts administration working for organization such as the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council and Americans for the Arts. She talked with her audience of



students and staff about technical process and the business of art (including marketing, pricing and contracts). Ashley visited Mark Bender's Mixed Media class after her talk.

August 21:

"The Figure in Watercolor"

Kit Paulsen's easy-going conversational style and elaborate presentation/demo made for a relaxed exchange between the artist and onlookers. She makes it look effortless and says it is, contradicting those who claim it's difficult to work with watercolor. According to Kit, she chose to do a demonstration because she "has no idea how to do a PowerPoint presentation, and really doesn't have that much to say." As luck would have it, the students had a plethora of questions, and kept the demo going far past its half hour assigned time. Kit's main points were mixing skin tones with two reds, one yellow and one blue, and showing the importance of putting color down wet into wet as opposed to mixing on the palette. Some insightful questions from students were: "Do you start at the top and work down?" "Do you actually make a living doing this?" "Do you need to be able to draw really well to pull this off?" "Can you really do an entire painting with six colors?" (If you don't know the answers, catch Kit's next painting demo on September 13 at Cuttings Flower & Garden Market in Sewickley.) Kit brought many paintings in progress as well as two sketchbooks which were passed around and thoroughly examined, generating more questions. AIP students are offered figure classes in charcoal so she hopes those who watched the demo will try watercolor for the figure as well.



August 22:

"The Humor in Art"

Karl Huber gave a fast-paced hilarious, self-deprecating presentation to an amused group as



the final speaker in PSI's series. His quirky sense of humor (while controlling his usual "colorful" vocabulary), beautiful drawings and paintings, and attention to art history were informative and very entertaining. Karl showed his many wonderful sketchbooks, several from his time living on a houseboat in Amsterdam. He stressed the importance of art history and drawing from life. He also spoke about the need to constantly be aware of your world in order to find information that leads to one's subject; in his case, a connection to humor.

"I thought it was interesting to see some themes intersect, like the importance of drawing and particularly drawing from life. Each presentation was uniquely different. Kit gave a demonstration, which lent a dynamic sense to our lunchtime in the gallery. In all, students were really interested to see 'live' work."

Maura Doern-Danko, AIP Gallery Director



PSI would like to thank Maura Doern-Danko for organizing this informative and entertaining added dimension to our presence at AIP. The four artists, all working in different multi-areas of illustration, enjoyed sharing their perspectives and advising on opportunities. PSI also thanks Anni, Ashley, Kit and Karl for acting as ambassadors for our organization, as well!

Article by Anni Matsick

Photos by Mark Bender, Anni Matsick and Kit Paulsen

10% OFF

all non-sale items with PSI members card

Artist & Craftsman Supply

5603 Hobart Street, Squirrel Hill

412.421.3002

ArtistCraftsman.com

SAVE 20%

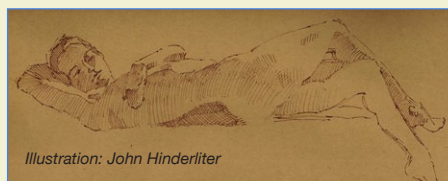
on non-sale items with PSI members card

Top Notch Art Center

411 S. Craig Street, Oakland

412.683.4444

TNArtSupply.com



Life Drawing at Panza Gallery

Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm \$10

Coffee, pastries & drinks served.

Enter basement gallery on left side of building.

http://www.panzagallery.com/Panza_Gallery/Life_Drawing.html

15% DISCOUNT

on all dental work
for PSI members without dental insurance

Dr. Jay M. Feuer
Family Dentistry

3035 Washington Road, Suite 3
McMurray, PA 15317

724-941-2200 www.drfeuer.com

PSInside newsletter items are due
during the first seven days of each month
for that month's issue.

Send any new images you've completed
or are working on for
BEHIND THE BRUSH.

Send news on exhibits, awards, book signings,
art donations and other announcements for
MEMBER NEWS.

Got an assignment or commission through
PSI's website gallery, PSI eblast, exhibit,
or other PSI contacts?

Send details for the new **PSI WORKED** feature.

Images must be low res jpegs 72 dpi,
max 600 x 600 pixels.

Send your info to:

animatsick@mac.com

Rick Henkel reports on:

July BOI Meeting



Mark Bender was the Featured Artist for the July Business of Illustration meeting, held at his home studio on July 26. Members listened to Mark talk about his work while surrounded by framed pieces on the walls, from various stages in his career to date. Mark is glad he is an educator and not entirely a freelancer at this point. He studied fine art at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, receiving his bachelors degree, then went to the Art Institute of Pittsburgh for a year and a half.



Mark worked as an in-house illustrator for Vance Wright Adams from 1980 to 1990 where he was a "jack of all trades." He signed on with artist representative Cliff Knecht, who encouraged him to develop his own style in airbrushing. He started by using hand cut stencils on illustration board, but then tried experimenting with airbrushing on wood. Mark would first hit the wood's surface with a blow torch to lift the grain, and then buff the grain after he was done airbrushing to create additional texture in his illustrations.

Soon after, his illustrations started appearing on billboards and in annual reports. The culmination of Mark's traditional airbrushing style are the huge 160-foot murals at Children's Hospital. From that point he switched over to working on the computer. Mark prefers to start with pretty tight pencil drawings, which he then scans and starts building in Illustrator®, using layers to keep the elements separated. He then opens the file in Photoshop® to work out the gradients. As an instructor at the Art Institute, Mark was given the opportunity to go into a Masters Degree program, and he chose the one offered at Syracuse University.

To get his work "out there" Mark prefers to send out twenty-five high end self promotion mailers to clients he wants to work with instead of mass mailings. Mark passed out examples of his awesome artwork, including sketches on paper, airbrush work on illustration board, airbrush work on wood panels, as well as a lot of print samples. He finished with the way cool illustration of the baseball going into the Allegheny with Pittsburgh's Roberto Clemente Bridge in the background that is on the current cover of Pittsburgh Quarterly (see page one of **June's PSInside**).



Mark closed his presentation with this advice: "Only work for people you love, and learn to love everybody."

Present were PSI members **John Blumen**, **Joel C. Boyer**, PSI VP **Ashley Cecil**, PSI President **Evette Gabriel**, **Dave D'Incau Jr**, **Mike Faria**, **Rick Henkel**, **Tom Miklos**, **Vince Ornato**, **Kurt Pfaff**, **Kathy Rooney**, **Carly Schonberg** and **Phil Wilson**. Also attending were **Doris Short**, President of AIGA Pittsburgh, and **Greg Coll**, AIGA Sponsorship/PKN Coordinator. PSI leaders are currently in discussion with AIGA Pittsburgh, the professional association for design, on how to support and network across our two organizations.

Next BOI Meeting: August 30, 7:30 pm at Frances Halley's home.

Featured Artist: Molly Feuer

Please remember to bring a snack to share!

A list of locations and speakers in this series is posted on PSI's website at www.pittsburghillustrators.org



Photos by **Evette Gabriel**

SAVE 10%*

with **FREE Utrecht ArtSmart Card**

Utrecht Art Supply

1930 East Carson Street, Southside
412.432.1945

UtrechtArt.com

* Discount can not be combined with any other offer, does not apply to clearance or sale items, Gift cards, BEST BUYS, Furniture, Lighting, and items designated as nondiscountable.

Spotlight on... Christine Swann

The luxurious setting of The Mansions on Fifth is fitting atmosphere for Christine's sumptuous-pastel paintings.

Those interested in studying Christine Swann's work methods were recently offered something new and unusual – a chance to combine the learning experience in pastels with round the clock pampering in old-world splendor. The beautifully restored Mansions on Fifth in Shady-side is now a 4-star luxury boutique hotel located on what was known as "Millionaires Row," where some of Pittsburgh's most notable industrialists once resided. Inside its stone walls and past the iron-gated entrance in late July, Christine offered an "immersion" retreat offering a pastel painting workshop combined with a hotel package. Participants enjoyed luxuriously



appointed rooms and started each day with individual coffee presses and a catered breakfast buffet in the dining room, which included several flavors of fresh yogurt made by the chef. Imaginative gourmet snacks and lunches were served on china in the dining room. Guests had free reign to relax and wander with a glass of wine, under the soaring ceilings and art-lined hallways. "The Power of Pastel" was the hotel's third offering in a series of workshops with Pittsburgh painters.



In her notes, Christine wrote, "My demo yesterday covered my yellow 'Find the light stage.' Today we worked with color harmonies and the power of pigments.

Then, imagine sitting down to this luxurious lunch of gazpacho, vegetable wraps and tomato tarts. After that it was back to work! Our 3:00 break was accompanied by hearts of palm seiche and fresh hummus. Then, to cap off the day we visited the *Fiberart International 2013* exhibit at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts! I have never taught a workshop quite like this!"

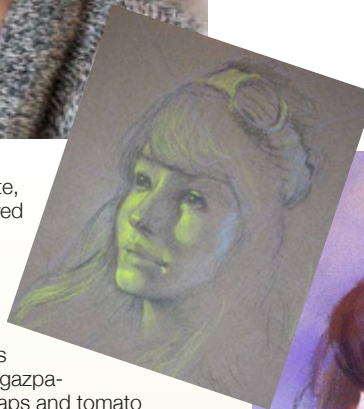
One student worked in the workshop house until 10 each night. As one attendee put it, "My brain is overflowing but my heart is happy." The next day ended with a trip to the Carnegie Art Museum five minutes away on Forbes Avenue where the *2013 Carnegie International* was being installed.



Christine is known for her "personality portraits" and considers them visual novels of her subjects. She has won numerous awards and is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America. This workshop will be presented in different locations including Albuquerque, New Mexico and State College starting next year. Christine plans to offer another in Pittsburgh in the spring. For additional information, visit her website at www.swannportraits.com and The Mansions' website at www.mansionsonfifth.com.

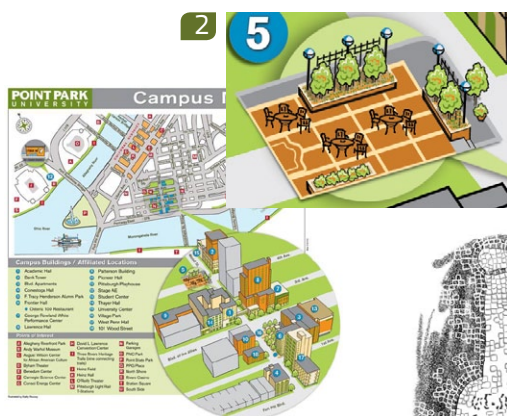
Photos courtesy of Christine Swann

Article by Anni Matsick





1



2

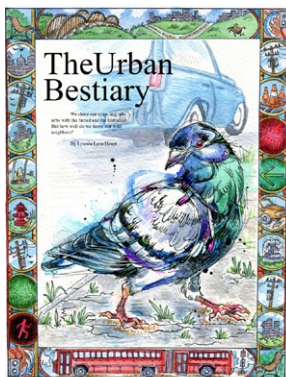
5



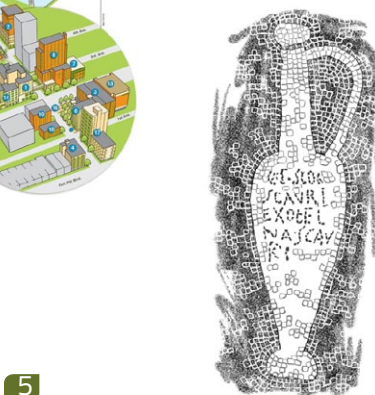
3



4



7



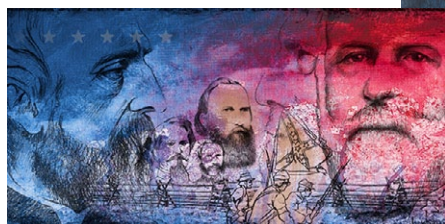
5



6



11



9

8



10



- Here's **Phil Wilson's** painting of Spinosaurus, the largest known carnivorous dinosaur yet discovered, measuring in at 59 ft. long, nearly 15 feet longer than a T-rex. "Oddly enough, scientists believe it fed on fish!" he says.
- This detail is from **Kathy Rooney's** Point Park University campus map with the 2013 new additions, a new little parklet with a big name: F. Tracy Henderson Alumni Park.
- Here are two of 85 ink line drawings **John Hinderlitter** did for a chapter book on Pompeii for Penguin Publishing.
- Here are two more of the three illustrations done by **Abby Diamond** for a feature article in the 2013 issue of Discover magazine, described on page 1.
- Joe Winkler** created these images to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg. The work was done in pencil, oil, and digitally. Joe sized them for the banner on his Facebook page where he rotated them and now they're available as prints on [Fine Art America site](#).
- Sarah Miller's** Game of Thrones tattoo showed up in the #1 slot at BuzzFeed. See it and 30 others [here](#).
- John Blumen** recently finished this cover for the book *Celtic Magick* for Llewellyn World Wide. It is the second in a series by Kristoffer Hughes.
- Taylor Gallery's** art for The Wall Street Journal illustrates the point that August is a month where we can all benefit from back to school savings. Items include tablets, office supplies, school clothes, farmers markets, last minute getaways, and more.
- Taylor did this piece for The Globe and Mail for a feature story about online privacy.
- Ron Magnes** just completed two game boards for Mylan. The games will be used as training type exercises for new and existing employee teams to see how they would handle certain business situations.
- Ella Fitzgerald is **Jim Zahniser's** newest icon of Music. View the rest [here](#).

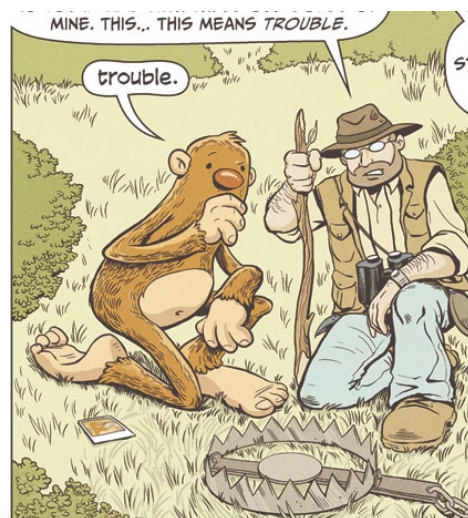
continued on page 8...



14



15



13



16



19



17



THE FIRST FLIGHT LASTED
 ONLY 12 SECONDS...
 BUT THE IDEA THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE
 CHANGED THE WORLD.

12. Two magazine covers illustrated by **Evette Gabriel** ran back to back for Bicycle Times Magazine. Issue 23 was done to celebrate the Tour de France's 100th anniversary, juxtaposing a 1920s rider with a modern rider.

13. Issue 24 featured cargo bikes. Evette says the illustration is a sort of utopia of various riders commuting together. Both were done digitally and art directed by Stephen Haynes.

14. "Oreo" is an 11x15 watercolor, pen and pastel painting by **Patty Lipinski** done as a commission. "A pet portrait of a lively, affectionate dapple dachshund. What a pleasure to do!" she says.

15. Check out the latest episode of **Vince Dorse's** Reuben-winning online comic, *Untold Tales of Bigfoot*, [here](#). This panel is a flashback in the story where young Bigfoot learns about dangerous traps from the Naturalist, a

kindly man he calls "friend." The first *Untold Tales of Bigfoot* page went up on August 15th, 2012, so this episode marks the first full year of the comic.

16. This 6x8 "Wild West Cowgirl" digital print and others by **Pat Lewis** are available on his [Etsy page](#).

17. **Mark Brewer's** art appears on the front and back of this promo piece done a few months ago for the team at [NuVisions Studio](#) in California.

18. Here's a recognizable logo Mark completed for The Clintones, The Ultimate 90s Tribute Band! Their first appearance was on Friday, August 9 at The Hard Rock Cafe in Pittsburgh.

19. This sketch by **Yelena Lamm** from a life drawing session at Panza Gallery was just shipped to a client in Toronto. More of Yelena's drawings are offered on her [Etsy page](#).