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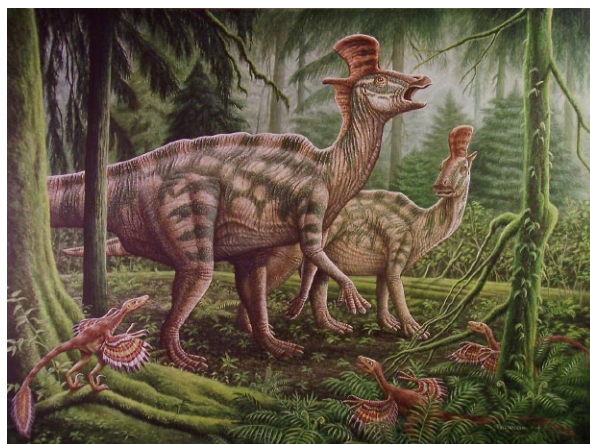
All in the Family

John Blumen illustrated the cover, including spine and back, for the recently released novel, *Camelot Burning*, by Kathryn Rose. The book is first in her series Metal & Lace, published by Llewellyn Worldwide. John writes, "Some may recognize my daughter Kate as the model."



Out for a Stroll

Phil Wilson's latest work depicts a pair of Lambeosaurus encountering a small group of Bambiraptors. The painting is 18"x24", done in acrylic.



Prints Get Press

An article on **Ashley Cecil's** nature paintings applied to fabrics for home goods and wearable items appears in the June 29 **Pittsburgh Post Gazette's Sunday Edition "Stylebook Snapshot."** In it, Ashley tells reporter Sara Bauknecht how locating in Pittsburgh has helped her career. A selection of giclées, pillows and scarves with her patterns are available in **Ashley's shop** at Etsy.com.



My Spot

Anni Matsick

Summer is in full swing and our Spotlight tells how one artist takes advantage of every sunny minute, bringing a smile to many of the

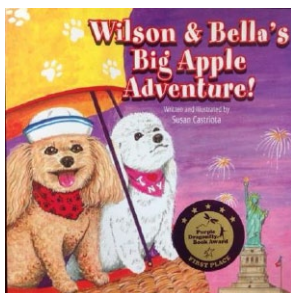
faces he captures. Read about his busy schedule of appearances, year-round, on page 5.

Others enjoying the season are a painter teaching at a mountain retreat and members who made a road trip to see a special illustration exhibit. A sunny day was the setting for a ceremony at one of Pittsburgh's highest points, installing signs bearing a member's artwork. See page 2 for photos.

PSI's June BOI meeting is covered on page 4, with a sneak peek at July's meeting, an outdoor retreat at a beautifully landscaped resort! And some are already making plans for fall, creating a fascinating slate for illustrators at an annual conference set for November for those working in children's literature, described on page 3. Everyone will be buzzing about these things and more at the next Social, on Tuesday, August 12, so plan to attend and join in the conversation!

Kudos

Wilson & Bella's Big Apple Adventure!, **Susan Castriota's** book about the two little dogs in New York City, won First Place in the category of Historical Fiction in the national *Purple Dragonfly Children's Book Awards* for 2014. It is the fourth annual Purple Dragonfly award she has received for this series. Many of the dogs, cats and animals featured in Susan's books are inspired by pets from local animal shelters. She has just completed the artwork for a sixth book, *Wilson & Bella's Christmas Wish!*



On Exhibit

Two pieces by **Amanda Zimmerman** have been selected by jury for *Beautiful Maryland: Art by The Guild of Natural Science Illustrators DC Chapter*. The show runs August 27- October 12 at the Garden Gallery, Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis, MD. "Common Pipefish" was done in watercolor and watercolor pencil and "Pokeweed" is pastel on paper.



A show of **Vince Ornato's** industrial oil paintings opened June 25 at the Rivers Club in the Oxford Building, Downtown Pittsburgh. The private club offers "Jazz Buffet Wednesdays" open to the public. This night's event featured vocalist Jessica Lee, who appears here with Vince and his painting, "Quittin' Time," which represents the men leaving the United States Steel Homestead Works during the 1950s. Another final showing of the work is set for July 30, 5:30-8:00 pm. The price is \$20 (including gratuity) for the buffet.



Christine Swann's daughter, Amber, posed for "His Text" which is currently at the *Mile High Exhibition* in Colorado. Her daughter Corinne was the model for portraying her thoughts on teens and their outlook on the world in "Taking Measure" which is heading to the *Pastel Society of America's International Show* at the National Arts Gallery in New York this fall.



Out and About

This painting of cabin #6 was done by **Ron Thurston** when teaching at Touchstone Center for Crafts in July. "Most of my class lessons at Touchstone aren't about water paint but about design, digital or otherwise," says Ron. "For this



day's 'risk taking' demonstration I showed a wet into wet approach with color blotches for visual excitement."



John Manders did caricatures early this month at *Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival* at Twin Lakes Park near Greensburg.



Members gathered at D's Six Pax & Dogz in Regent Square after June's Business of Illustration meeting. Left to right are **Joel Boyer**, **Frederick**

Carlson, **Vince Ornato**, **Gregg Valley**, **Molly Feuer**, **Kelly Ackerman** and **John Blumen**.



John Blumen, **Kurt Pfaff**, **Danielle Amiano** and **Jack Puglisi** traveled to the Butler Institute of American Art to see the 50 Year Tribute to *Maurice Sendak* exhibit.



The opening ceremony celebrating the installation of twelve new interpretive signs along Grandview Avenue on Mt. Washington took place on July 16. Two of the signs feature watercolors done by **Yelena Lamm**.



In Print

Seven PSI Members were credited/quoted in the new edition of Michael Fleishman's *Starting Your Career As A Graphic Designer* recently published by Allworth Press. These members are: PSI Past President **Rick Antolic**, Past President and New Member Contact **Fred Carlson**, **June Edwards**, **Judith Lauso**, Scholarship Chairman **Rhonda Libbey**, **Phil Wilson**, and ASIP rep **Ilene Winn-Lederer**. The book is described as "The ultimate source for beginning professionals, working professionals looking to make a change, and entrepreneurs wanting to go out on their own," detailing "every business aspect of commercial graphic design." Michael is currently working on a similar volume *Starting Your Career as an Illustrator*.



WPaSCBWI Updates

2014 Fall Conference



Regional Advisor Marcy Canterna, Illustrators Representative **Nora Thompson** and Asst. Regional Advisor Kate Dopirak gathered recently to move forward with plans for the western Pennsylvania region of Society of Children's Writers & Illustrators Fall Conference set for November 7-8, 2014. Several new features of interest to illustrator attendees have been added. "We're bringing in Kristen Nobles, Art Director from Candlewick, and Amy Cherrix, Editorial Associate from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers to do two workshops each with the illustrators," Nora shares. "We're also bringing in three additional editors, two agents (including one from Writer's House who also represent illustrators) and Alexis O'Neill who will be talking about school visits. We're setting aside a closed viewing when only the faculty will be looking through portfolios, as well as an open viewing when everybody else can browse." The topics of the workshops and the Friday night intensive haven't been decided yet.

Registration will be open in early September. Here are some of the new things illustrators can look forward to:

NEW: Friday Night Intensive for Illustrators

NEW: Saturday Breakout Session for PAL (published and listed) Members

NEW: Private Illustrator Portfolio Viewing (for art director, editors, and agents only)

Win Free Tuition!

Illustrator members of SCBWI will, for a second time, have a chance to win free tuition to the conference by entering the **Bookmark Challenge**. The challenge is to illustrate any scene you wish from the book *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams Bianco. Since the book is in the public domain, it is available free through the **Gutenberg Project**. Last year's winner was **John Hinderliter**.



Illustrator's Day

Plans for a WPaSCBWI Illustrator's Day are in the beginning stage, to occur around next April. Mark your calendar now for these events and watch for alerts with further details!

New Member

Stephen Haynes, Irwin
smhaynes77@gmail.com
stephenhaynes.carbonmade.com

Stephen's illustration career spans over 20 years and has encompassed many different styles and outlets. From his early days of doing flyers, gig posters, t-shirts and album covers for local punk bands in his home town of Ventura, California, to producing imagery for magazine covers and internationally renewed festivals. The thread linking much of his work is a focus on pen & ink drawing, mixed with a good dose of whimsy. He'd like to expand his abilities and exposure in the editorial illustration realm. Stephen is Art Director for Bicycle Times magazine.



Affiliate Members

Angela Fullard, Pittsburgh
angela.fullard@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/angelasoddities

Angela has lived in Pittsburgh her entire life and is working to earn her Associate's degree in Art at the Community College of Allegheny County. She uses her work as a storytelling method, focusing on quirky and whimsy characters and scenes. Eventually, her aspiration is to be a published children's book author.



Robert Jones Sage III, North Huntingdon
Robert.jones.sage@gmail.com
www.robertsage.com

Robert has been active as an artist for three years after being graduated from Seton Hill University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in studio art in May of 2013. In the past year he has had gallery shows in Greensburg as well as Pittsburgh, his work as been showcased by RAW artists of Pittsburgh, and his work is currently being shown at GalleriE Chiz in Lawrenceville. Robert draws his inspiration from sci-fi and fantasy narratives, mythology and, like an author, tries to describe a story visually. He paints in both digital and traditional media, and draws upon techniques from the old masters to modern day painters like James Gurney to create realistic images that display fantastic worlds and fantastic characters.

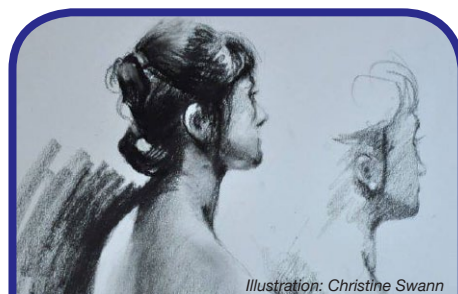


Illustration: Christine Swann

NHAC Model Sessions

North Hills Art Center

Next session August 3, 6-8 pm

Contact christine@swannportraits.com

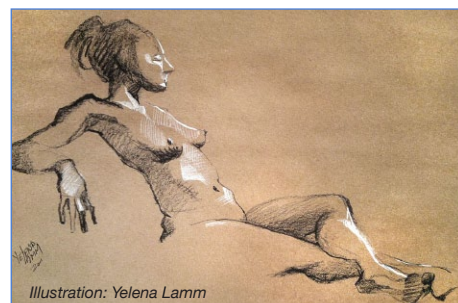


Illustration: Yelena Lamm

Life Drawing at Panza Gallery

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Molly Feuer reports on:

June BOI Meeting

The June Business of Illustration meeting held June 27 was titled "Copyright & Licensing in Illustrations," held at an exciting new space, The TechShop Pittsburgh (more about that later). Our expert speaker,



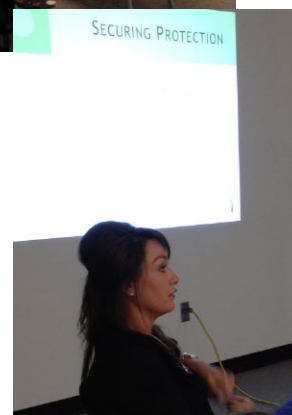
Sharra Brockman is a copyright and trademark attorney with Verv, an intellectual property law firm. The firm helps professional artists navigate the ins and outs of copyright law, protect their creativity in the digital age, and secure the income they deserve by encouraging clear communications with clients using fair contracts. Her presentation definitely covered topics near and dear to all of our artistic hearts.

Members took notes and asked plenty of questions as Sharra discussed the basics of copyright law, including facts about registration, infringement, fair use, artists' rights, etc. We learned that there's more to copyright protection than just whether or not to register; there are actually key time frames of registration relative to creation that can have an impact on the damages an artist may be awarded for infringement. Her slide show included excellent examples of the complexities involved in creating new art with inspiration taken from existing ideas. Some cases are tough calls!

Sharra also explained what it really means to license art to others, and how easy-to-understand, well documented communication is key to sharing rights fairly. We discussed standard structures of license agreements, the pros and cons of exclusive and nonexclusive licenses in the eyes of the artist and client, and the facts about copyright transfer and work made

for hire situations. One takeaway was that an artist's education in these topics can be just as much a comfort to clients as it can be a powerful negotiation tool.

Energized by our new knowledge, we had time and energy to discuss some specific situations members were dealing with or have dealt with regarding copyright and licensing, and several members took a tour of TechShop. TechShop is a community-based workshop in Bakery Square, with more than 16,000 square feet of high-tech equipment, computers and design software. They offer



monthly memberships and hundreds of classes each month. The staff is very friendly and supportive, as are the members that utilize the space. Classes can be taken without a membership and membership can go month-to-month,

so it's a great resource for learning to use large format and/or expensive equipment flexibly and affordably to create amazing work. Tours are free and encouraged. Learn more at [their website](#). In addition to the speakers and myself, **Molly Feuer**, present were PSI President **Evette Gabriel**, Past VP **John Blumen**, new member contact **Fred Carlson**, past President **Rick Antolic**, Full members **Vince Ornato**, **Pat Lewis**, **Amanda Zimmerman**, **Mike Faria**, **Vi Scarpone**, **Kurt Pfaff**, **Joel C Boyer**, **David Fielding**, returning member **Gregg Valley**, and affiliate members **Sean Smith** and **Kelly Ackerman**.

Photo on-site by Molly Feuer

July BOI Meeting

PSI's first Illustration Retreat took place Saturday July 26, at **Choderwood**, 7665 Lock Way West, Pittsburgh.

Members had plenty of time and space for relaxing, eating and socializing in this idyllic resort setting. They were also invited to participate in scheduled activities, including a group discussion about the Society's progress and future initiatives and peer review and private critiques by some of PSI's volunteer experts. A draped model posed for an hour-long figure/portrait session.

Look for a full report and photos in August's PSIInside!



Photo by Mark Zingarelli



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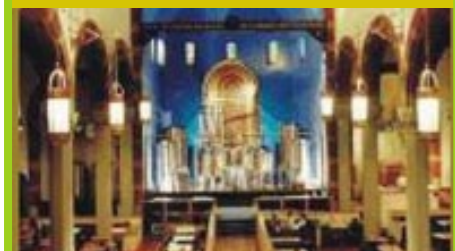
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NEXT PSI SOCIAL



Tuesday, August 12
Beginning at 6:30 pm

Church Brew Works,
3525 Liberty Avenue, Strip District

Free parking! Free appetizers!

If you'd like to read more about some of the members featured in this issue, look for their interviews and Spotlights in past newsletters, available on PSI's website. Click on a name to open.



John Blumen



Susan Castriota

Spotlight on... Vince Ornato

Vince is having his busiest summer ever, stringing appearances at events where he creates mementos with his quick pen.

For the first time in about fifteen years, Vince Ornato was too busy with gigs to fit in *Three Rivers Arts Festival*. (He holds the record there for drawing the most people in one day: 222). During the *Three Rivers Regatta* during fourth of July week he drew, non-stop, on the fourth for 8 1/2 hours (allowing for bathroom breaks) and ate meals with his free hand. He prefers standing when he draws and was surprised at how many folks asked that day how he can do it for so long. He replied, "Just keep exercising regularly."

Vince started in the 80s as a portrait-sketch artist at Kennywood Park while attending Art Institute of Pittsburgh's Evening School. The great caricature artist, John Johns, who was AIP's president at that time, conducted occasional one-afternoon caricature seminars. Vince liked the confrontational "sink or swim" feeling — no re-working. "I had begun sketching a lot in ink in sketchbooks on location, and it proved to be part of my overall development," he recalls.

For the past twenty years, Vince has had an association with Seven Springs, drawing at dozens of parties each year. He organized caricature artists for a major Sheetz convention, and draws on weekends during their October *Autumnfest* and during ski season. He started a relationship with the Mall at Robinson a few years ago and draws on weekends there during Christmas season. "And, like Seven Springs, they have been terrific to me," he says. His weeks are always filled with appearances, including weddings, business promotions, conventions, customer appreciation events and graduation parties. His most unique request so far was for a nudists picnic (leading to Vince's claim that he has "drawn it all").

The whole experience has been and continues to be a great way for Vince to get out of the studio while maintaining and growing his painting career. "People who know me from caricatures are surprised to find how much I paint, and vice versa," he adds. Vince has appeared on most local TV stations and ESPN-TV, was interviewed a few times on radio and has been featured in local newspapers. After around 70,000 caricatures, Vince has this to say: "I remain intrigued by making that black line dance on the white paper and enjoy creating a personal and fun memory that did not exist just a few minutes earlier. I have had tons of touching experiences drawing elderly people, disabled kids, blind people, deaf students and many others. I have had terrific moments listening to kids give me their perspectives on everything from what happened to the dinosaurs ('they became distinct') to how they would like me to marry their mother. It has been quite a ride and I am not bored with it at all. The process does not seem fast when I do it, it feels very *efficient*, as I am getting a lot done with a minimal amount of strokes."

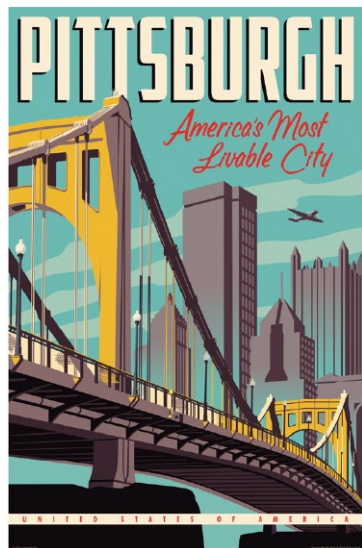
See more from Vince on his [caricature website](#).



Businessman **John Pournaras** included ice cream with all the toppings at a customer appreciation day at his establishment in Ambridge this month, but Vince was the main attraction. John

posted photos on Facebook along with the comment, "Vince Ornato really made everyone's day doing caricatures for everyone!"

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1. **Jim Zahniser** did a vintage travel poster of Pittsburgh. "After see how much Pittsburgh-related stuff sells at the *Three Rivers Arts Festival* the past couple of years, I wanted to add some hometown items to sell," Jim says. "I may do a couple of more Pittsburgh themed posters before next year's show, or maybe even another city or two."

2. **Anni Matsick** designed the teshirt offered for sale to participants in the July 9 *Children & Youth Sidewalk Sale* at the *Central Pennsylvania Festival*

of the Arts in State College. Her line drawing shows the Festival mall. It's her twelfth design donated for the annual event.

3. New affiliate member **Robert Jones Sage III** sent this recent digital painting, "Above the Treetops."

4. Here is **John Blumen's** cover, with typography in place, for *Camelot Burning*, by Kathryn Rose. See page 1 for the full-wrap art.

5. **George Schill** created this logo for his daughter's friend who is opening a

new gastropub near Greensburg this fall. George also submitted ideas for t-shirts and other promotional materials and concepts. "I included a few versions of a direction I was hoping they would choose, where the P in Tapped is flopped, resembling a tap, but they thought it was too hard to read," he says. George also created a simple tap character that would lend itself to t-shirts, social media, etc. He came up with a bunch of tap-related puns that will be on the back of the shirts in limited color to help build their brand. They decided to choose five different

designs to use as staff uniforms, and will sell them to the public as well. George sends thanks to **Ron Magnes** for providing the final vector files.

6. Here are samples of recent work by new affiliate member **Angela Fullard**. "Bedtime Story" is 9"x12", done on watercolor paper using Prismacolor markers and colored pencil, white ink and watercolor.

7. "Boo the Warrior" is an 11"x15" painting on watercolor paper, using watercolor, oils and white ink.