

Member News

Caught On Canvas

Kurt Pfaff's "Winter Walk at Dusk," a 24" x 36" oil on canvas, is a recent commission that was wrapped and placed under the Christmas tree.



Home For The Holidays

Kathy Rooney created this Christmas card for a private commission.



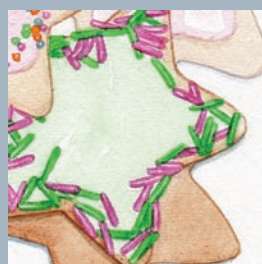
Barking Through The Snow

Mark Brewer's art, "Traveling With Your Pets" was done for the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review in November.



Shopper's Guide

This image by **Taylor Gallery** for the Wall Street Journal's Market Watch section was done for a story about December's best buys.



My Spot

Anni Matsick

We approach the new year prepared with a change in leadership as two relatively new members take the top seats. There were big smiles all around as they became the first young women to

assume the offices of President and Vice President in a heretofore all male run. The brief historic ceremony took place at our annual Saturnalia celebration, covered on page 5.

The annual get together proved that our members' talents extend to the culinary category as well, with so many tempting treats on display for sharing. (The

three-inch high apple pie with whole grain crust got my top vote!) Many new faces could be spotted among the "regulars" sharing food and spirits, evidencing the recent growth in our ranks to over 170 this year.

An added treat was the appearance of our favorite candidate in Spike TV's Ink Master competition, who joined us after a long day in her shop. At that point the final competition was only days away, where she came close to taking the title in a nail-biter last episode. We'll all miss those Tuesday night challenges but have learned a lot about the art of tattooing during the season. See how it wrapped up on page 2.

This issue's Spotlight falls on a member whose very cool exhibit was noted as a hotpick. Read about the innovative show and accompanying book on page 4.

We'll be back in 2013 to start a new volume, so let us know what's new!

On Exhibit



A series of three charcoal on paper drawings by **Kelly Blevins** titled "Prisoner I," "Prisoner II" and "Prisoner III" were selected to be published in an art magazine in Helsinki, Finland. The specific issue is titled "Riot - Mellakka", and the magazine is HESA Inprint. The digital format is available on their website at www.hesainprint.com. A hard copy is available for order to help support their foundation.



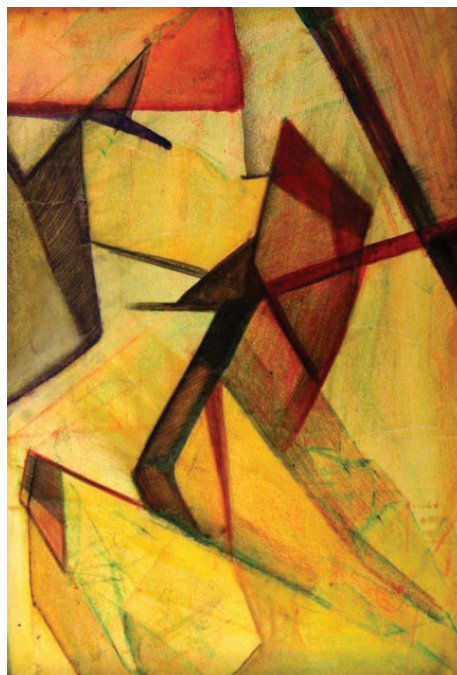
"Prisoner II" (22" x 30") has been selected for an international juried exhibition *Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century* in Astoria, Oregon at Clatsop Community College Art Center Gallery. The show will run February 21 through March 28.

Complete info at: www.aunaturelart.com.

"Prisoner III" (30" x 40") has been selected for an international juried exhibition here in Pittsburgh at Box Heart Gallery, titled *Art Inter/National, Here and Abroad*, to run January 8 through February 2. A public reception will take place January 12, 5-8 pm, at 4523 Liberty Avenue. More on the gallery at: www.boxheartgallery.com



Dave Biber held an exhibit of his art December 14-15 at Shaw Galleries on Liberty Avenue. The small format (9" x 12") collection was from recent work, dating from 2009.



Kudos



Followers of Ink Master Season Two saw **Sarah Miller** finish in second place in the December 19 finale on Spike TV. The challenges ended with three finalists who were sent back to their studios to create 24-hour tattoos in their choice of design on a human "canvas" assigned to them. On their return, one contestant was eliminated when votes were tallied for online votes placed over the season for favorite tattoo designs.

Sarah's submission, a Viking and Valkyrie pair, was critiqued by judges, who noted her extraordinary accomplishment with only six years practicing in the field.



Sarah is shown with Sebastian Murphy and Steven Tefft (right), who claimed the title. PSI takes great pride in Sarah for her outstanding run, representing Pittsburgh well in the series. A recap of the season can be found at: www.spike.com/shows/ink-master

Sarah hosted a viewing party for *Ink Master* episode 11 at Cavo on Smallman Street in the Strip on December 11. Partiers were rewarded when the telecast revealed Sarah had done the winning tattoo, a b/w child's portrait done on his mother's shin. His plaid flannel shirt was noted to be "as good as it gets" according to guest judge Bob Tyrell who is a master of b/w portraits. Fellow contestant Jesse Smith joined the party and a Q/A session was conducted with both stars. Among fans present were **Mark Brewer**, **Gina Scanlon**, **Yelena Lamm** (see photo), **Rhonda Libbey** and **Alex Patho**. A KDKA-TV cameraman was there to record an interview with Sarah and Jesse. Prizes were raffled and Sarah gave away a \$500 scholarship award to the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. SlangStrong.com discusses the show with Sarah in an interview at: www.slangstrong.com/tv-shows/interview-sarah-miller



Mario Zucca's "Dad and His Ford Taurus, 1969" was selected for the Uncommissioned section of the *Society of Illustrators 55 Annual*.



Mary Dunn received the "Award of Excellence" (4th place) in the *Southwestern Pennsylvania Council of the Arts 17th Annual Juried Exhibition* for her entry, "Study in Poppies." Seventy-three artists are featured in the event at Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley through February 10.



This news just in about the movie **Kathy Rooney** created eleven illustrations for... American Public Television has accepted director Dan Handley's submission of *UNDAUNTED: The Forgotten Giants of the Allegheny Observatory* for distribution to PBS stations throughout the nation. See the film trailer: <http://www.undauntedthemovie.com/>

In this preview for an episode from *The Following* you can see **Victoria Lavorini's** Poe painting for a second, around the :19 mark. www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZoAYjNqeUxo She comments, "The set designer felt my work looked like something a serial killer would own. I don't know what that says about me but it's exciting, regardless!" Coming in January, on FOX network.

Events



Sarah Miller will be tattooing on all stops of the Ink Life Tour in 2013 along with other Spike TV Ink Master cast members. www.inklifetour.com is the world's largest and most talked about tattoo and music festival. The three day mega event is hosted by the world famous House Of Pain Tattoo Studio in El Paso, TX. Attendees can be tattooed on the spot by over 200 of the world's top tattoo artists through the 3-day weekend event. The first is set for February 17-19 in Amarillo, TX at the Amarillo Civic Center. Others are scheduled in Fort Myers, Oklahoma City, Albuquerque, El Paso, Tampa and Colorado Springs.

Scream Park is coming home! Pittsburgh's official Scream Park premiere will be held on Jan. 6 at The Hollywood Theater in Dormont. Doors open at 7:30 pm. **Rhonda Libbey** was Art Director for the production, filmed mostly at Conneaut Park. Tickets are now available through ShowClix. Click the link for more details! <http://www.screamparkmovie.com/2012/12/scream-park-hometown-premiere-pittsburgh-jan-6th-2013/>

In November **Mark Brewer** had the opportunity to share a simple demonstration of color theory with the Girl Scouts to help them earn their color badges. Mark sends this side note to his art director friends: "No, I do not work for cookies!"



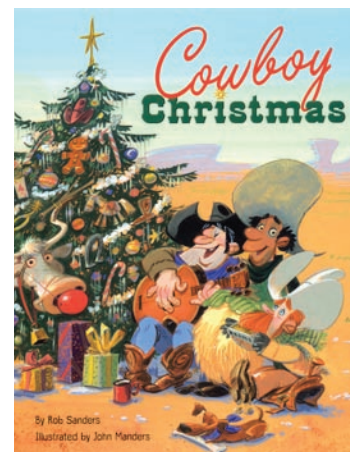
Books

Cheryl Ceol has self-published a 40-page children's book for 8-12 year olds and their parents. It is through Balboa Press, a division of the Hay House Publishers. *Can You Picture This? You Draw It / You Say it / You Find It / You Write It* is a creative game book for children and adults using short stories to draw, speak, find hidden pictures and write. "It's for young and life experienced people alike," Cheryl says.



Victoria Lavorini's *Animalis* is now available for purchase. It's an 8x10 hardcover that contains every painting that is part of the *Animalis* series. You can preview or buy it at this link: <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/3787968>

John Manders has a new picture book out, perfect for the season. Read a synopsis of *A Cowboy Christmas* written by Rob Sanders at: <http://www.randomhouse.com/book/212579/cowboy-christmas-by-rob-sanders> Here's a short review in New York Times Sunday Book Review: <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/02/books/review/cowboy-christmas-by-rob-sanders-and-more.html>



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Spotlight On.... Dave Klug

Dave's new book illustrating a different interpretation of dog commands is an imaginative promo piece combining cool, stylish design with underlying humor.



Dave came up with the witty theme of *Common Dog Commands for the Uncommon Dog* for a book to promote his current show, *New Classic Images*, which runs through December at Panza Gallery in Millvale. "The show plays off of a lot of classic imagery from history and creates new classics, hence the name," he says. "It showcases my stylized art, sense of humor and love of animals. Of course you've heard of Whistler's Mother, but I opt to focus on Whistler's Dog." There is also a depiction of Whistler's cat.

The opening reception on Saturday, December 8 was cited on the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's Hot List of things to do that weekend. The show includes about thirty works, twelve of them handmade silk screens done by the artist himself at Artist Image Resource on the North Side. Limited edition prints are available.

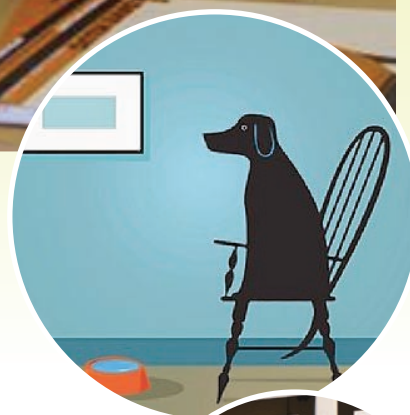
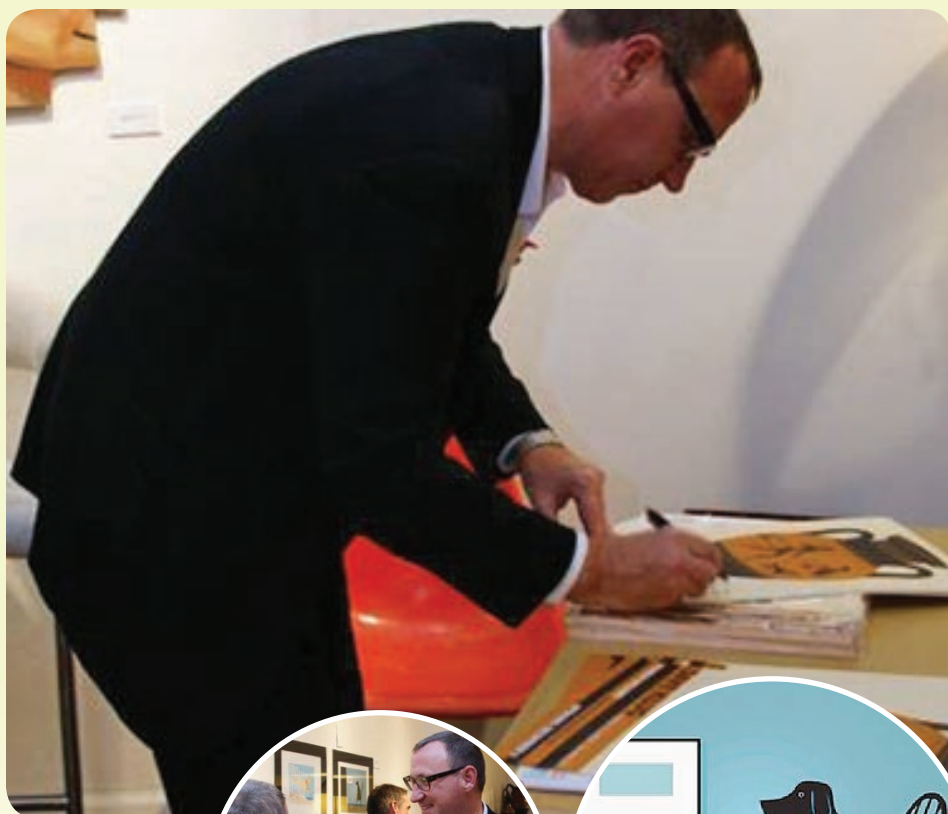
Dave invites you to visit www.klugworld.com

Find more work on his website at <http://www.daveklug.com/>

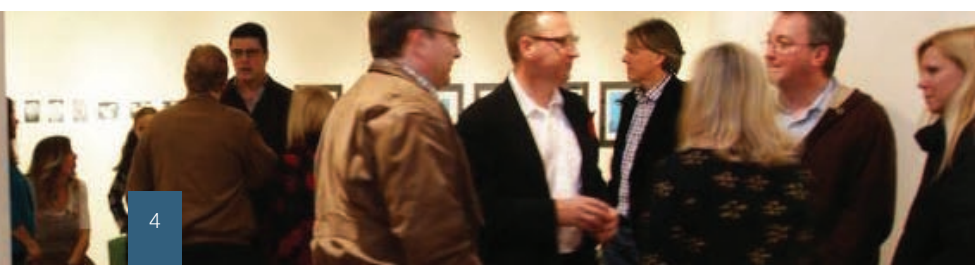
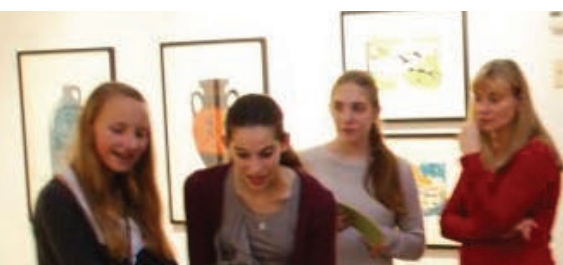
Photos by Mark Panza



SICK'EM



SHAKE



New Members

Full Member

Matt Gondek

gondekdesign@gmail.com
MattGondek.com

Matt is a graduate of Pittsburgh Technical Institute (PTI) with a Multimedia Associates degree and has been a full time freelance Illustrator for 3.5 years, working with hundreds of sports, music, and clothing brands. Some key clients include Lego, the NBA, and Warner Brothers Records.



In September Matt opened a clothing and art boutique in Lawrenceville where he sells only locally made goods. He also offers for sale his personal Pittsburgh Sports related clothing brand, Jock 'n Roll. (JOCKnROLL.com)

Matt was awarded "Best Local Artist 2011" by Pittsburgh Magazine and is on the Graphic Design Advisory Board for PTI. Every year he travels to a few technical schools in the area and discusses how to be a full time artist with high school students. His personal project at DoodleBash.com records a drawing one of his friends every day for 2012.

Affiliate Members

Kelly Ackerman

<http://kellyackermanart.tumblr.com>
facebook.com/kellyackermanart
kellyackerman@gmail.com

Kelly is a freelance portrait artist and designer specializing in photorealism pencil work. With artistic talent on both sides of her family, Kelly has had a passion for art since she could first hold a crayon. In 2004 she was the recipient of an Honorable Mention in the Mike Doyle Art Competition.

Kelly earned a BA in Art from Carlow University and completed a one-year affiliate program at Art Institute of Pittsburgh. Her clients include former Pittsburgh Penguin Max Talbot.



Demetrios Gosser

Demetriosg@msn.com

Recommended by Mark Bender and Mike Malle, Demetrios is a student at Art Institute of Pittsburgh with a summer 2013 graduation date. He is employed at TRF Enterprises and has had clients like Adelphia Sports Bar & Grille and Jungle Jim's Home Pet Care. He also received education in the field from the Carver Career Center.



Fred Carlson reports on:

Saturnalia 2012

The 2012 edition of the PSI annual holiday party tradition Saturnalia was held Saturday evening,

December 15, at our generous host and outgoing VP John Blumen's home in Brentwood. This is the fourth straight year John has opened his home for this treat of an evening.

The highlight of the night was the passing of the ceremonial giant brush of PSI leadership from outgoing **President Mark Brewer** to **President-elect Evette Gabriel Villella**. The

oversized brush was lit from within like a torch---an ingenious product from the studio of **George Schill**, a former VP in attendance. Since we are visual folks, the speeches were short, sweet, yet very heartfelt after four years of productive leadership from Mark Brewer. As we thank Mark for his service just past, we also thanked John Blumen for his VP role and much project help over the past four years. **Incoming VP Ashley Cecil** was also present to meet and greet the many PSI members in attendance.



The food room was packed wall-to-wall, with overflowing camaraderie pushing into the kitchen and out to the rear patio firepit. The living room area had a beautiful fire as well, setting the stage for much provocative and happy conversation.



The Phil-Harmonix played their annual impromptu appearance upstairs in the music room, led by **Phil Wilson** on vocals and Rickenbacker electric guitar, myself the former PSI President **Fred Carlson** on Fender Strat and mandolin, **Craig Jennion** on acoustic guitar, **Justin Macioce** on congas, and Stephen Dunn (husband of member **Mary Dunn**) on Fender electric bass. Artist friend-of-PSI Hugh Watkins sat in on tenor guitar and vocals.

PSI members also attending included former VP **David Biber**, current member secretary **James Mellett**, current treasurer **Gina Antognoli Scanlon**, ASIP rep **Ilene Winn-Lederer**, PSInside editor and PR Director **Anni Matsick**,



PSInside designers **Steve Cup** and **Beth O'Neill**, PSI logo designer and former PSInside design chief **Ron Magnes**, scholarship chair **Rhonda Libbey**, screening committee chair **Kathy Rooney**, former show chairs **Vince Dorse**, **John Ritter**, **Lynne Cannoy**, and **June Edwards**, BOI speakers **Pat Lewis** and **Rachel Arnold Sager**, along with members **Kelly Ackerman**, **David Coulson**, **James Elston**, **Molly Feuer**, **Frances Halley**, **Frank Harris**, **Yvonne Kozlina**, **Pat Lewis**, **William McCoy**, **Sarah Miller**, **Vince Ornato**, **Josh Perry**, **Jane Popovich** and **Kurt Pfaff**. **Alexander Patho Jr.** documented the evening and shows it off at: www.pathophoto.com/psi/saturnalia

PSI welcomed many guests including illustrators Joseph Daniel Fiedler and Michael McParlane, painter Ray Sokolowski, artist/professor Robert Villamagna, and countless friends, clients, spouses, and partners. We thank all who made Saturnalia 2012 a reality and look ahead to capable program leadership from our new Board of Directors in 2013!

"Thank you, Mark, for serving as PSI President for the past four years. During your tenure we have increased our membership to over 170, becoming the 2nd largest illustration society in the US! You have also instituted great things for the group, such as the Business of Illustration Meetings and socials at The Brew Works. Your vision led to our new website and the 2011 Drawing Under the Influence beverage book/member directory and gallery exhibit. You have successfully established new traditions for our group and have ultimately encouraged PSI members to become excellent artists and business people. We are so grateful to you for being our leader." - Kathy Rooney

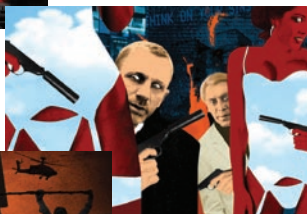


See what members are working on this month...

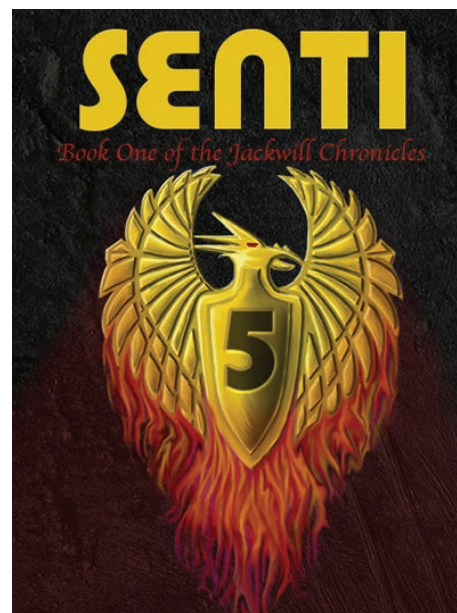
This holiday card illustration by **John Hinderliter** was done for the CMU Computer Sciences Department. John did the oil on panel portrait for a couple in California. He also offered this picture from a TV commercial shot in Philadelphia.



Here is **John Ritter's** recent artwork for GQ to accompany movie reviews of *Skyfall* and *Zero Dark Thirty*. "Guilty Parties," John's artwork for the November issue of Harper's magazine, was done for the article "How to Rig an Election/The G.O.P. aims to paint the country red" by Victoria Collier.

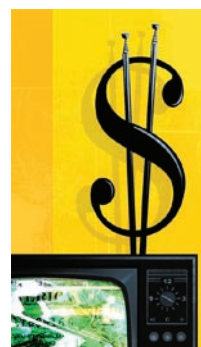


Here is one of **Kurt Pfaff's** illustrations hard at work in a recent ad for Universal Electric Corporation. It combines 3D illustration of the product with the hands painted digitally in Photoshop.



This new book cover was designed and illustrated by **Craig Jennion** for Sage Words Publishing. It was created in Photoshop CS6.

Taylor Gallery's illustration for the Wall Street Journal's Corporate Week Ahead section accompanied a story about current TV earnings.



Here's a sample of new member **Kelly Ackerman's** photo-realism portrait work.



This tree done in digital pointillism by **Ron Thurston** was baked on to metal for an agency's giveaway calendar stand.



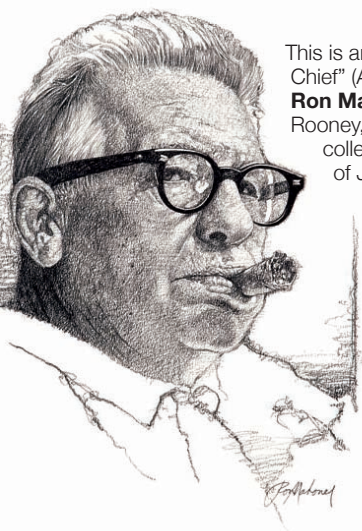
A small boy named Lincoln is the protagonist for an upcoming children's book **Kyle Findley** is writing and illustrating. "Linc doesn't want to let his handicap hold him back when playing with other kids," Kyle says.



Here is a commemorative snow globe concept for **Kyle's** "Bullets and Holidays" story. This was turned into an animated card using Flash.

Ilene Winn-Lederer's shares a concept illustration from her new book project, *An Illumination Of Blessings* and a "little sketch" for the holidays.





This is an illustration of "The Chief" (Art Rooney, Sr.) by **Ron Mahoney** done for Art Rooney, Jr. for his private collection. The painting of Jack Butler was commissioned by Mr. Rooney for the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Ron is now working on two more paintings commissioned by Mr. Rooney of Mike Wagner and John Henry Johnson.

Recent work by **Mario Zucca** includes this piece for Tuck Forum to go with a report on a study that monitored people's food purchases in order to track the spread of



diabetes. This illustration for the Texas Observer, "Helena Handbasket," is a portrait of Houston city councilwoman Helena Brown.

Mario's piece for Compass Magazine went with a feature about money and jobs and how having a job changes your perspective on money.



Pat Lewis shares his personal Christmas card design for 2012 here.

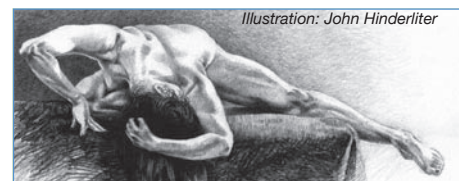


Here is **Sarah Miller's** sketch for Odin used for her final tattoo in the Ink Master competition. It's signed as a gift for her model, Pittsburgher Fred Terling (aka Barnabus Bailey of the Greatest Show Unearthed www.barnabusbailey.com).



New Member **Matt Gondek** sent a sample of his recent work, a shirt design done for Epitaph Records.

The piece was done digitally using a Wacom tablet and the program Manga Studio for the linework, with color done in Photoshop.



Weekly Figure Sessions

South Arts building www.southartspgh.com
Wednesdays, 7-9 pm **\$10.00**

No instruction, just a group of talented folks working in whatever medium they like. It's a casual, friendly group with music playing while they work.

Upcoming Meetings

Business of Illustration: January 25, 7:30 pm
Social Meeting: January 8, 6:30 pm

See our [website](http://www.southartspgh.com) for more info!



Mark Brewer's "Techno Santa" was done for the December 11 Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, for an article on kids texting their letters to old Saint Nick.

Here's one of seven spot illustrations **Mark** finished in November for CSO Magazine.

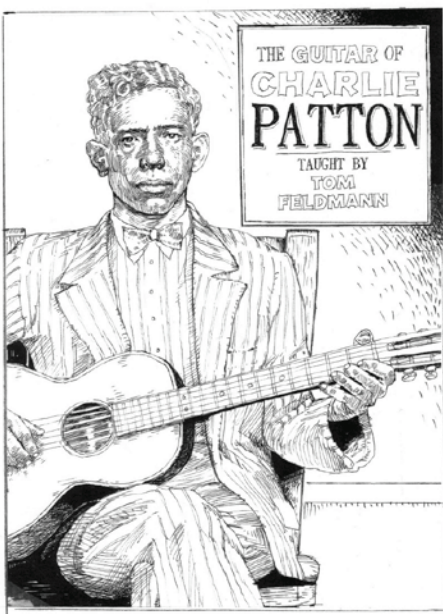
Fred Carlson has a lot to share this month, showing his preparatory work toward creating a final image.

Here Fred provides a peek behind the curtain to his method of developing a convincing study with the "creator of the Delta Blues" Charlie Patton, for a new teaching DVD from Guitar Workshop. There is only known photo of Patton's face, and another full figure photo with this face has the guitar across his lap which was undesirable for the cover art. Fred used reference he shot of himself to create the figure/chair and merge the correct proportions of head and figure. Progress of the layout and final b/w art can be seen in the progression of images.

1. Figure study with only known reference of Patton's face



2. Proposal with study dropped into cover format



3. Tight b/w version for approval



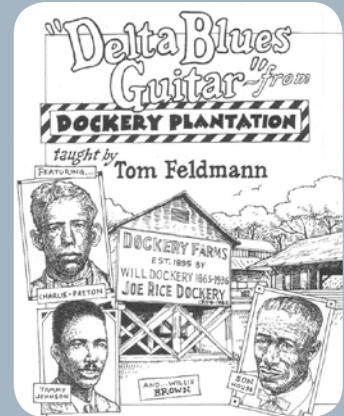
More covers in the series were completed from these sketches between November 30 and December 11. Color versions will appear next issue. Art director for the series is Stefan Grossman.

1. Delta Blues Guitar from Dockery Plantation taught by Tom Feldmann--3 major figures of country blues worked on this farm in the late 20s and 30s together--Charlie Patton, Tommy Johnson, and Son House. To this day it is a destination of blues fans seeking to soak up the rural vibe.

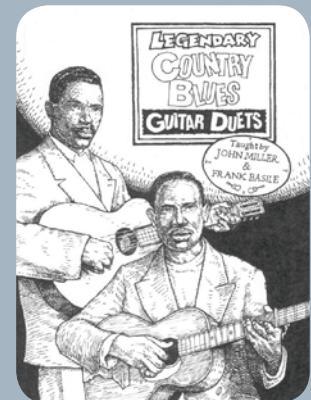
2. Legendary Country Blues Guitar Duets taught by John Miller and Frank Basile--cover pictures the famed Beale Street Shieks, Frank Stokes ("creator of the Memphis Blues") and Dan Sane behind him. Only two pictures of Stokes are in existence and this stern duo is one of them.

3. Country Blues Guitar in Spanish & Vestapol Tunings taught by John Miller. Although gibberish to the layman, the terms "spanish" and "vestapol" denote famed easy tunings popularized in the 1920s as guitars and recordings became staples in households around the country. The tunings could be used to imitate Hawaiian guitar styles, lap slide styles, and provided easy melodic background for playing popular hits as well as country blues styles of a more improvisational nature. I used generic figures from the era and songbook type references for this design.

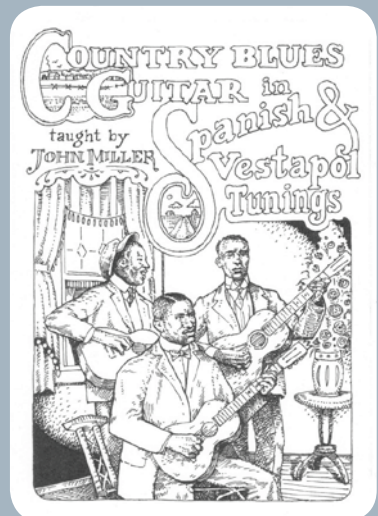
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