

Member News

Taking Care of Business

This art by **Mark Bender** appeared on the cover of *Tepper Magazine*, published by Carnegie Mellon's School of Business. See inside art on page 6.



Social Climbers

These happy revelers are from *Let's Have A Tree Party*, one of two new picture books illustrated by **John Manders**. More about them, along with a rave review, appears on page 3.



Heartfelt Sentiments

Friends of **Molly Feuer** were delighted recipients of her special handmade valentines! You'll find more of them, along with a description of her process, on page 5.



My Spot

Anni Matsick

Now that PSI's membership count has reached 160, there are that many reasons to connect! Members now have two chances each month to get together, socialize and share news. If you were

enjoying the monthly socials at Church Brew Works, mark your calendar for the new date, second Tuesday of each month through November, to be sure you don't miss one. (This month's fell on Valentine's Day!) Business meetings have been turned into The Business of Illustration, at 7:30 pm on the last Friday of each month (which used to be the socials date) through October. Each will take place at

a member's home, with a featured illustrator. Start planning now to host one, and bring the crowd to your place! Details for the first one set for February 24 are on page 4.

Remember, also, that it's time to pay the annual membership dues so you can enjoy these great social meetings, along with other opportunities and benefits PSI provides. Dues are payable on the first of the year. You can do that online at PSI's website, or by mailing a check payable to Pittsburgh Society of Illustrators to PSI's treasurer: Gina Scanlon, 439 Lark Tree Circle, Bridgeville, PA 15017

In this issue, you'll find a new feature telling about a commission one of our members got through an email sent exclusively to PSI members. Others have reported jobs and gallery opportunities gotten through their PSI website galleries, another membership perk. In the works is a new Membership Responsibilities and Benefits Reference Guide that will help keep track of all you need to know to take full advantage of PSI's offerings. Exciting things are in store, if YOU get involved to make them happen!

On Exhibit

A 50" x 78" charcoal drawing by **Kelly Blevins**, "Self II," was selected for their *Women's Works* exhibit by Northwest Area Arts Council in Woodstock, IL. The exhibit runs March 8 through April 30 in the Old Court House Arts Center. An



art group in Finland featured "Self III" (50" x 70") on their website and blog in January. On Friday, March 16, 7:30 pm Kelly will give a lecture on her work for the West Hills Art League at the Sharon Community Center (lower level), 522 Carnot Road.



John Hinderliter and **John Ritter** are among twenty invited artists included in The Saint Vincent Gallery's exhibit, *2 x 20: Twenty Regional Artists Everyone Should Know*. Twenty regional artists who are painters, sculptors and photographers working in a wide-array of media, were invited by Saint Vincent College to submit two works each for this special exhibition. "All of the selected artists are masters of technique, have a unique vision and are worthy of being better known and celebrated," commented Br. Nathan Cochran, O.S.B., Gallery director. "It was decided that to qualify to be invited, the artist must demonstrate strong artistic techniques and



craftsmanship and be communicating a vision." Shown here are John Hinderliter's works, "There Will Be Snacks in Heaven" and "Surveying the North Forty." An opening reception with the artists was held on February 2. The show will hang through February 26, on the third floor of the Robert S. Carey Student Center on the campus of

Saint Vincent College. Gallery hours are 1-4 pm, Tuesdays through Sundays.

A talk and slideshow presentation by **George Gaadt** was given to the public on Thursday, February 9, 7-8:30 pm at the Sewickley Public Library. George told how he turned his passion for art into a sports career and focused on his days at the former Three Rivers Stadium in Pittsburgh. Attendees were also treated to the real thing in display cases full of sports art and



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photo by Kristina Serafini

memorabilia. The show runs through February. A detailed article on the show appears online at: <http://www.yoursewickley.com/sewickleyherald/article/good-sport-sewickley-man-displays-extensive-sports-art-collection-library>

Worthy Causes

Brad Blahnik is donating art to Zygote Press, a non-profit, cooperative, fine art printmaking workshop in Cleveland, to benefit programs and services they offer to artists. Donations must be in by April 1. At an event on Friday, April 13, 100 pieces will be offered, each selling for \$100.

Wilson and the White House Pups is the third book in the "Wilson's Wondrous Tails" series, authored and illustrated by **Susan Castriota**.

The story has Wilson traveling back in time, visiting the dogs who lived in the White House with their famous masters. From George Washington to Barrack Obama, there were 31 Presidents who had dogs in the White House. The White House Historical Association will be promoting the book and their historian will help with the final edit. The book should be available this spring. Look for a write up in April issues of Dog Fancy and Dog World magazines. You can meet the book's star at a signing to benefit the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society, March 3, 4 and 10, at their booth at the Home and Garden Show at the Pittsburgh Convention Center, Downtown. Buy tickets at: <http://www.premier-homeshows.com/show/duquesne-light-home-garden-show>



James Elston painted two pairs of ballet pointe shoes for a fundraiser to benefit the Greater Johnstown Concert Ballet.



Happenings

The ToonSeum, Pittsburgh's museum of cartoon arts, unveiled the 2012 edition of Illustration Ale at a tasting session on February 4. The 700-bottle limited edition is a robust Belgian style beer brewed exclusively for the ToonSeum by Pittsburgh's own East End Brewing Company. As with the May 2010 release of the first batch of Illustration Ale, each bottle bears a label created by one of six Pittsburgh illustrators. Guests got the first sips of the special brew, and the chance to meet past and present label artists and have their bottles autographed. One bottle was included with the purchase of a ticket. This year's illustrators are **Mark Bender, Vince Dorse, Jasen Lex, Nathan Mazur, Ed Piskor, and Dave Wachter**.



Illustration Ale Bottles by (left to right): Nathan Mazur, Dave Wachter, Vince Dorse, Jasen Lex, Mark Bender, Ed Piskor

Illustration Ale was created as a fund-raiser for the ToonSeum, which gets two dollars from the sale of each one-liter bottle. "Once again, a group of Pittsburgh artists created specu-

lar work for Illustration Ale. The labels provide fantastic images for people to ponder while they enjoy their beer," says East End owner and brewmaster Scott Smith. Specially illustrated labels on beer bottles has become a brewing tradition, and Smith, who enjoys his cartoons almost as much as his beer, has worked closely with many local artists. The 2010 edition labels were done by **George Schill, David Coulson, Dave Klug, Pat Lewis, Jim Rugg, and Mark Zingarelli**. (See June and July 2010 editions of PSInside for coverage.)



Illustration Ale Artists (left to right): Mark Bender, Dave Wachter, Jasen Lex, East End's Scott Smith, Ed Piskor, Nathan Mazur, Vince Dorse

Leda Miller was interviewed for the segment "2 the Outdoors" broadcast on WGRZ-TV Buffalo, NY, about the Ice Bridge Disaster of 1912 at Niagara Falls. That is the basis of Leda's graphic novel in progress, *Hecock*, which illustrates the heroic tale of Burrell Hecock, an ancestor of her husband. "Many wonderful things happening with the release of the first chapter, I've had more hits on my blog than ever!" Leda says. She was contacted by the two grandchildren and the great grandson of William "Red" Hill, the legendary river man who saved 23 lives that fateful day at Niagara Falls when Hecock, the 17-year-old cousin of her husband's mother, died trying to save a young couple. The February 5 spot describing the tragic event can be viewed on the producer's website at: <http://niagarafalls.wgrz.com/news/news/63025-tragedy-falls-ice-bridge-disaster-1912>



comics stint will run from Monday, March 19 through Sunday, March 25. It can be viewed online at <http://www.rhymeswithorange.com/> and daily on Wayno's blog at <http://waynocartoons.blogspot.com/>

are winners page after page. The full-throttle characterizations and exuberant physicality are reminiscent of vintage animation, while the ever-shifting perspectives give the action a gleefully frenetic, cinematic feel (one particularly impressive spread looks up into the tree as the animals bunny-hop across a branch). Thanks to Manders, these critters really are the very picture of party-hearty."



Jack and the Giant Barbecue (Marshall Cavendish) by Eric A. Kimmel is an update on the Jack and the Beanstalk story. Jack's daddy once made the best barbecue in West Texas until a giant stole his recipe book. Jack just has to find that greedy old giant and get back those recipes!

Book Releases

Here are more details on the two new books illustrated by **John Manders**, now on the shelves:



Let's Have A Tree Party! (Candlewick) by David Martin is "a whole day full of fun," for ages 2-5. "What could be better than friends together at a party in a tree?" it asks. A review in Publishers' Weekly praises the art: "... Manders' pictures



Wayno was invited to create seven new cartoons for a guest spot in Hilary Price's daily comic, *Rhymes With Orange*. "RWO is a very clever and funny comic, and I'm flattered to appear there," he says. "Thanks to Hilary Price and King Features Syndicate for this opportunity to invade another cartoonist's space." Wayno's weeklong

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Rachel Arnold Sager is sharing the results of a project she has been working on for a long time. It is an illustrated haiku book called *Monster Haiku*, available as a pre-order through March 3. The books, as well as posters, cards and original paintings are available for purchase at <http://monsterhaiku.org>, and 100% of the profits will be donated to March of Dimes. It's the first charitable endeavor by Second Block Studio, founded by Rachel's husband, Josh Sager, which specializes in print and interactive media.



Monster Haiku features artwork from "52 ills," a weekly illustration blog created in 2009 by Rachel, accompanied by haiku poetry by Will Rutherford. The March of Dimes is a national organization dedicated to improving the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. "It's been extremely rewarding to work on such a creative project that also gives back to the community," says Josh. "Will's poems are contemporary and easy to identify with. And they can be silly, just like Rachel's artwork."



An art show featuring the book as well as post-cards, original paintings and selected prints from the book will be held April 13, 6-9 pm at Wild-card, 4209 Butler Street in Lawrenceville. The show will hang through April 17. Like *Monster Haiku* on Facebook, and follow @monster_haiku on Twitter for updates on the project.



Announcements

First Business of Illustration Meeting Set for February 24

All members are invited to participate in this monthly opportunity to gather, share and learn!

PSI's business meetings have officially been replaced by **The Business of Illustration**. These NEW gatherings will put a special focus on sharing our art with each other, learning tips and gaining insight on the business of illustration. It's designed to help younger members gain practical information on the business while keeping practicing illustrators up-to-date with some of the current trends and marketing strategies.

- Take an opportunity to gain insight on illustration from a **Featured Artist**
- Share one piece of your art with attending members for a constructive **Speed Review**
- Gain insight as PSI discusses a question pertaining to the **Business of Illustration**
- Join attending PSI member illustrators for **Networking**

These gatherings will occur on the last Friday of each month. The first one will take place at the home of **Fred Carlson**, 7:30 pm, March 24 at 118 Monticello Drive, Monroeville, PA 15146. Fred's studio is conveniently located 5 minutes south of the Parkway East/PA Turnpike interchange in Monroeville. A studio tour will follow all the action! The featured artist is **Evette Gabriel**.

Can you host a gathering? PSI and members will provide snacks and drinks. If so, please email Mark Brewer at Mark Brewer mark@markbrewer.com with the date you've selected and it will be posted on PSI's website. You can see which dates have already been scheduled and which dates still need to be hosted on our website at: <http://pittsburghillustrators.org/>

First 20 members get a card worth \$10 off next purchase of \$50 or more at Utrecht Art Supply!



Evette Gabriel at 2010 PSIcon

PSI Worked for Vince Ornato!

Got an assignment or commission through PSI's website gallery, PSI eblast, exhibit, or other PSI contacts? Let us know and you'll be featured here!



This pen-and-ink portrait of Pittsburgh Symphony conductor Manfred Honeck was done by **Vince Ornato**. PSI was solicited exclusively for the commission through an email search. Vince was happy to find that one of his teachers, Pittsburgh artist John Johns, had done many such portraits of earlier conductors, and his work will now join them on the office walls at Heinz Hall. "An additional thrill for me is that the great oil portrait of conductor William Steinberg, which hangs in the theater lobby, was done in 1976 by my painting teacher from New York, Daniel Greene (I did lots of caricatures in all types of whacky venues to save money so that I could take Dan's summer workshops!)," Vince relates.

"By coincidence, when I met with my contact at Heinz Hall, Dawn Cercone, the orchestra was finishing rehearsal. This allowed me to meet Maestro Honeck. He was very warm and corporate as I snapped a few quick photos of him. Although I primarily used the pics that were provided by the symphony, this brief meeting helped a lot because I now had a sense of his personality. When executing the portrait, my challenge was to see if I could capture the warmth of his eyes and personality with the sometimes rigid and unforgiving medium of pen- and-ink. I had not worked with the 'good old' Coquill pen and India ink in a long while, so I first did some small head and shoulder renderings as practice. I felt like a student again because these drawings had no agenda to them other than re-familiarizing myself with the tools at hand." Vince is pleased with the result and has gotten very nice responses from the symphony staff, friends and colleagues.

Spotlight on . . . Jeff Outlaw

As his name suggests, Jeff is an artist who ventures outside the lines, creating his own path. Known for establishing the popular *Naked in Pittsburgh* exhibits on the local scene, he's now launching a new one-night event for the not-easily-offended!



"There are two upcoming shows from Outlaw Artisans," Jeff explains. "*You'll Find This Offensive* is based on a book project of the same title I instigated, featuring work by artists from Pittsburgh and across the nation, that inspired a one-night silent auction of their artwork, set for Feb 24." Jeff writes, "Inside (the book) you'll find work that will offend some. But in many ways, it is only in facing those things that challenge us that we find our strength. In it, artists apply their gifts to spotlight

abuse, homelessness, neglect, whimsy, and fetishes." You can see sample pages and place an order at: <http://www.outlawartisans.com/offensive/order-yfto/> Among the 38 works included are two by Jeff and one by another PSI member, **John Hinderliter**, a fre-



quent exhibitor and prize winner at the *Naked in Pittsburgh* figurative shows. Jeff adds, "I wanted to get people involved in making statements, something I think artists really need to do. I included an essay on apathy, the danger that it leads to, and the role and responsibility of artist in an open and free society. So with that as my battle flag, I set up the auction and advertised for it on some national websites."

Everyone will be given a number on entering to use when bidding on the sheets next to each piece. The auction, like all Outlaw Artisans shows, is also a food drive for Pittsburgh area food banks. Visitors are encouraged to drop off canned food at the door, instead of an admission fee.

Show dates for *Naked in Pittsburgh 2012*, Pittsburgh's premiere figurative show, are June 1-16. Deadline for submission is April 13. Information can be found at: <http://www.outlawartisans.com/call-for-artists/> NIP has grown to be one of the best attended Outlaw Artisan shows. In November they received more than 300 people on opening night. Jeff plans to do even more this year to promote it on a national level. Both shows will be held at the Red Door Space, 2112 Sarah Street, South Side Pittsburgh.

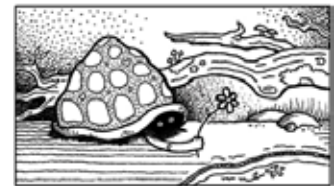
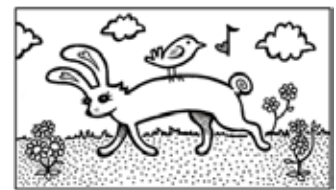


John Hinderliter's painting on corrugated cardboard reads, "I'd rather be in the woods thinking of God, than sitting in church thinking of walking in the woods." It appears in the book.

Behind the Brush

See what PSI Members have been up to this Month

Molly Feuer remembered making hand-made valentines for her classmates in elementary school. It was a fun process, the kids seemed to appreciate it, and her mom had all the necessary crafting supplies handy. On a whim, Molly thought she'd use Facebook to see who might like to receive an actual valentine in the mail this year, and then she set out to make them.



"I've been doing small drawings on the backs of old business cards from a previous job. The cardstock is nice, I have about 100 and they make 15 minute, 2" x 3.5" compositions. It feels good to sit down with a pen and without a plan. There are no art directors or committees in my living room," Molly says. Wondering if the love-themed ink work wasn't still a bit cold for mass-appeal valentines, she colored four images digitally to warm them up and bought some patterned papers and other flourishes. She made over 20 and hopes they brighten the holiday for her recipients. "Making them was definitely a bright spot in my week, even if my home office smells like rubber cement and looks like a kindergarten arts and crafts room. It was a much needed break from the norm and took the angst out of a slow work week. And I'm amazed at the craft supplies they sell at Michael's these days. A three-inch diameter paper hole puncher? Love at first sight!"



Here's an illustration by **Dan Hart** titled "Steeler football legends" which was printed as a 28" x 22" poster that he mails and gives away to promote his own design and web site.



Mark Bender's cover art on page one and this piece used on table of contents page for the Winter Issue of CMU's Tepper Magazine, relate to articles on the school's new Dean, Bob Dammon, his leadership and plans for the future. "The art directors were Susan Limoncelli, one of the best in the city, and a really talented former student of mine from AIP, Joey Mancuso," Mark says. "Quite the Italian delegation working on this one--me, Limoncelli, Mancuso. Include the printer rep from Heeter printing, Al Russo, and we have a quartet of Italians!"



Here is one of three images **Brad Blahník** worked on for a book competition based on Angela Carter's "The Bloody Chamber" short stories.

"Steelers Ornament" is a 5" x 7" oil painting by **Joe Winkler**, just purchased by native Pittsburgher, actor and celebrity Joe Manganiello, a big Steelers fan. A family member of his saw the piece in Joe's solo exhibit last July in the Mount Lebanon Public Library.

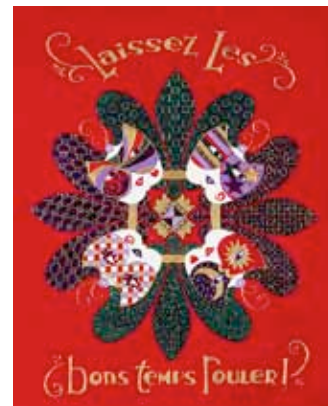


"Flying" is on Joe's easel, currently in progress. It's the second of three 16" x 20" still lifes of classic car hood ornaments. He plans to enter it into various shows this year.

Ilene Winn-Lederer sent some images recently added to Alchymy, her art licensing collection. Their titles are "Fancifuls," "Musica Antigua" and "Winter Tapestry."



Frances Halley's church youth group will be traveling to New Orleans this summer for "Youthquake--A Gathering of the Saints." Their fundraising includes a Mardi Gras style coffee complete with bienets and chickory coffee from Cafe Dumonde. Frances completed this painting of familiar Mardi Gras motifs; masks, fleur de lis, crowns and the French translation of the phrase "Let the good times roll." It will be presented for bidding in a silent auction to help raise money for travel expenses. "If the reaction to the copy on display in our church is any indication, it should be a successful contribution to our fundraising efforts," Frances reports.



Steve Cup jumped on the dead celebrity bandwagon with this portrait of Whitney Houston.



Here's a fresh Icon of Music from **Jim Zahnizer**. "We had a port stop in Jamaica on a cruise last November, so that was the inspiration," Jim says. He continues to get good response from having some of his portraits on display at the Murray Avenue and Carson Street Starbucks.



"Tribesman" is a charcoal drawing by **Kelly Blevins**. Kelly is currently working on a 10" x 10" drawing to donate to Future Tenant art space at 819 Penn Avenue for their annual fundraiser on March 30, 7 -12 pm. They are still accepting donations in exchange for tickets. If interested, write to Allison at: programming@futuretenant.org



Here is **Wayno's** PittGirl illustration for the March issue of Pittsburgh magazine.



"I have been going to Artists Image Resource on Pittsburgh's North Side for their open studio sessions, and learning how to screen print," **James Elston** reports. "I've done four prints so far. Here is one set on the drying rack."



This full page rebus illustrated by **Anni Matsick** is on page 28 in the February issue of Highlights for Children magazine.



This newest promo card by **John Hinderliter** reveals the internal workings of an illustrator's brain. Among the sections noted are "The area that holds your artistic integrity, buried very, very deep," "The area that is choking back the laughter when you hear the deadline," and "The area that makes you wish you had really paid more attention to the other tables on career day."

Inside An Illustrator's Brain



John Hinderliter Illustrator 412-897-2065 www.johnhinderliter.com

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