

Creative hio

Volume 3 Number 8

August 2003

**A Newsletter
for the
members of the
Ohio Arts and
Crafts Guild**

President's Corner

One of the perks I frequently enjoy as President of the Guild are invitations to some very interesting events. Such an invite came from Mrs. Taft to attend a reception at the Governor's home honoring "Passion Works."

I had never heard of "Passion Works," and neither had Phyllis.

Then I thought I might be able to find something on the Internet. The computer becomes more useful all the time - when it does what I ask it to that is. So, I typed "Passion Works" into my favorite search engine and guess what? - they have a wonderful website! <http://www.passionworks.org>

Let me share some of the information I found on their homepage:

"Passion Works Studio provides artistic and collaborative opportunities for people with developmental disabilities."

"At Passion works, adults with disabilities work with artists and other community members to create unique and wonderful works of art."

An artistic statement from Patty Mitchell: (Artist-in-residence)

"I am very lucky. I have been given the opportunity to uncover the artistic talents of people with development disabilities. On the first day, I was introduced to people to whom, I feared, were so disabled, so limited in movement I would be unable to offer them anything.

Instead they offered me a new perspective, or better, a new perception. Since my first day in the studio I have learned not to prejudice or squander human potential."

Phyllis and I attended the reception, and met many of the artists. We saw a wonderful display of very colorful metal flowers made from recycled materials. On the grounds, two large flower beds had been completely turned over to these flowers, called "Passion Flowers." We also saw many wonderful paintings and drawings on display. We even heard several insightful poems written by Passion Work artists.

Passion Works is located in Athens, Ohio. They have an on site gallery, as well as having their work displayed at the foothills School of American Crafts in Nelsonville, Ohio.

I believe all of us possess a creative urge. What a wonderful achievement to have found a way to assist the satisfaction of this urge in this special group of people. The looks on the artist's faces as they received the praises for their work was very heart warming. Not only is the quality of their life enhanced by developing this creative urge, but all of us benefit through providing a way for them to share their talent with us.

John Croft

Croft_John@email.msn.com

REMINDER!

**Treasures for the Tree ornament
submission deadline October 1 - 15.
See application on page 7.**



Art Festival Musings

by Sue Clancy

From the Editor:

It's that time of year again - we're doing shows back to back, in the heat, the rain, the wind. Traveling all over the place, loading, unloading - sales are up, they're down, one weekend blends into another and I think all of us at some point during the year ask ourselves, "WHY? am I doing this?" Here's an article that will answer that question, give you a lift and keep you focused.

Yesterday I volunteered at the annual Festival of the Arts in Oklahoma City. I wanted to see the show from the inside out, how much money was made, type of working environment, etc. I've thought about exhibiting my art there so I volunteered to work in the sales booth in order to conduct my "inside" investigation.

Boy oh boy was the money flying!!! The sculpture section of the Festival (total Festival covered about 4 city blocks) made \$29,000. in sales within about 4 hours!!! I handled more than a few personal checks for \$1000. or more! Ever made change for a \$500. travelers check before??? I have now! (\$2.09 was the change due - HA! wow!)

So, I concluded that there were many artists making their booth fee back probably making a profit. Sort of paying themselves back for the materials and time involved. Sounds good, or so I thought!

At one point I took a lunch break and talked to several of my fellow artist friends who were exhibiting in booths at the Arts Festival.

I heard the tales of the long hours sitting in the sun -12 PLUS hours! They could hardly get time to use the restroom or get a coke. Lunch?? You gotta be kidding - who's got time to eat?? Not only that but they were packed like sardines in football-stadium size crowds for that entire length of time. Patiently (for the most part) they fielded all types of questions from all sorts of people, all day long. I heard the horror stories of little children falling against the artwork and ruining it, and I heard about the rude comments from visitors.

My vision of dollar signs was slowly fading. This was some HARD work to exhibit at an Arts Festival for 6 days straight! So that \$1000. for a work of art began to sound like pocket change when I considered the time and materials that went into making the artwork. Then I considered the time and expense of framing it. The time and cost of creating slides and applying to the show, not to mention the booth fee. Then setting up the exhibit for the festival, sitting there for 12 hours a day - 6 days in a row. Not to mention the 35% commission the festival takes out of the money each artist does make. That \$1000. is now about \$.05 cents

an hour and a VERY slim profit margin. AND, that is only if you sell the work - talk about entrepreneurial risk-taking!!!

Thus reeducated and lunch consumed I returned to my post at the sales booth more than a bit deflated. (let's say downright depressed)

Many more \$1000. (plus) checks and credit-cards came and went in a blur. \$100. bills were dropped at the sales booth like leaves in the Fall. Then the rain of buyers slowed. The sales booth took a collective sigh. Various members of our booth left to get cokes and munchies. I manned the counter mostly alone.

About that time one middle-aged lady came to the counter clutching her sales ticket like fine jewels. She was grinning from ear to ear. Laying the ticket down for me to tally she sighed with a totally blissful look on her face. I glanced up from adding tax to the total of \$675. "Did you find something nice?" I asked. The lady brightened even more - if that is possible. "Oh, I found the most wonderful painting!!! It is so perfect!! Oh I just can't believe it!!!" She gushed. "It's a painting of a house that reminds me of my grandfathers house when I was a child!" I could see the happy memories dance across her face.

"That is just wonderful," I said. She flashed me a smile. I totaled her purchase. The lady wrote her check hardly noticing the amount. I got the distinct feeling that she would have paid any price for that painting. She took her purchase claim and fairly skipped to pick up the painting.

I thought to myself. Wow, to give someone that much pleasure is definitely worth the 'work' of being a professional artist. There really is more to life than just money!! Money is important, and artists deserve every penny they get, and should get more. However, in the concern of 'paying the bills' sometimes I forget the artistic ideals that made me pursue being a professional artist in the first place.

"The function of the artist, is to provide what life does not."
- Tom Robbins.

Sue is a full time artist and has a business called This Artist Studio, <http://home.telepath.com/~artist/> She, and an associate, make one of a kind handmade books, zines, artist books and handmade papers. They also do cartoons (that are published in the Oklahoma Gazette and other publications) and other funny pictures, illustrations and paintings. Some of their books are sold via Art-o-Mat, <http://www.artomat.org/>, which sells art, dispensed via old cigarette machines! The rehabbed cigarette machines are great festival gimmicks! Contact Sue at artist@telepath.com



RAAB ENTERPRISES, INC.

**PO Box 33428,
North Royalton, OH 44133
440/237-3424**

**Submit slides or photos,
photo of display and SASE.**

Sept. 12 - 14

Macomb Mall, Roseville, MI

Sept. 17 - 21

Monroeville Mall, Pittsburgh, PA

Sept. 25 - 28

Parmatown Mall, Parma, OH

Sept. 25 - 28

Westland Center, Westland, MI

Oct. 9 - 12

Eastgate Mall, Cincinnati, OH

Oct. 23 - 26

Tri-County Mall, Cincinnati, OH

Nov. 28 - 30

18th Annual Christmas Arts/Crafts Show,
Pittsburgh ExpoMart

Dec. 5 - 7

23rd Annual Christmas Arts/Crafts Show,
EJ Thomas Hall, Akron, OH

WELCOME! NEW MEMBERS

Marie Buckingham

Bloomville, OH
419-284-3999
mbuck@cross.net
Painting/Drawing/Printing
on Ceramics
Black Diamond Ranch
Collectibles

Kevin Buckland

Lewis Center, OH
614-543-0000
bgdesig1@ix.netcom.com
Watercolor
Buckland Gillespie Design

Tamera Crosby

Warren, OH
330-306-0305
crystalgazer1456@aol.com
Wood sculpture/decoration
Lunar Dancer Creations

Cheryl Darrah

Shaker Hts., OH
216-752-4440
Jewelry
C.Darrah Specialties

Joe & Kathy Karocki

Perrysburg, OH
419-874-2773
karocki@buckeye-
express.com
Blown Glass
Gesundheit Glass

James Kirkell

Shaker Hts., OH
216-283-5468
Kirk silk@apk.net
Decorative/Sculptural
Fabric
Kirkell Silk Studio

Jeff Layne

Cardington, OH
419-864-2516
jll07810@msn.com
Metal Sculpture

Paul Neely

Laurelville, OH
740-332-0400
pfn48@yahoo.com
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216-556-1823
backrdimg@aol.com
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440-635-0419
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Cabin Crafts

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fineartstoneware@aol.com
Clay
Fine Art Stoneware

Cindy Shipp

Strongsville, OH
440-239-5879
thetimbergoddess@juno.com
Wood
The Timber Goddess

Rita Urquhart

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419-634-0769
urksakre@msn.com
Jewelry
Rainbow Ramblings

Beverly Wolford

New London, OH
419-929-4855
beve@acc.norwalk.com
Acrylic
Bev's Country Crafts



Yankee Peddler Foundation Award

by John Croft

In April, Phyllis and I were once again invited to the Annual Yankee Peddler Foundation dinner. This year was a special treat as Phyllis and I had the honor of presenting Betty Chajka with a certificate in recognition of her many years of support to the folks working in the A/C arena. Betty is the creator of the Yankee Peddler Festival, along with husband Frank, and son, Frank, Jr., directors of the show.

Jo Lance, a long time guild member, was selected to receive the 2003 award. Jo is a self taught artist who has maintained the disappearing craft of pine needlework. She has taught in numerous venues. Jo lives in Woodsfield, Ohio, with her husband Bill who is also an artist.

The Crafter/Artist of the Year Award was created to bring more publicity to the arts/crafts community, and to generate a greater awareness and appreciation among the public for professional artists and crafters. The Award also includes a contribution from the Yankee Peddler Foundation to the Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild Educational Fund, as well as to another educational fund chosen by the YPF award winner.

Past guild member award winners were:

William Schmidt
William Saling
Kathy Lehotsky

In addition, long time guild member Sharon Tobasko was honored as one of the nominees for this award.



Betty Chajka (seated), John & Phyllis Croft, Bob Yappel



Jo Lance
*Woodsfield, Ohio
2003 Yankee Peddler
Foundation Award
Winner*

An Apology

from John Croft

One of the benefits of being a guild member is a ready to frame certificate signifying your membership. Unfortunately, I have found that I cannot keep up with the demand, and have fallen way behind. The certificates come preprinted, and it's just a matter of typing in the specific member information: Name, member number, expiration date - and then mailing to the individual. I use the computer to do this, specifically Microsoft Word, and it takes about ten hours per month. Probably faster if you're really computer savvy. If any of our members would like to take this on, please let me know.

In the mean time, I'll do the best I can. If an individual can't wait, please make a specific request, and I'll respond as quickly as I can.





Classified

CLASSIFIED AD RATES: Deadline is the 24th of the month. PLEASE NOTE we are on a 2 MONTH LAG. For example - ads submitted on June 24th will be printed in the August newsletter. 1x rate - \$7.50 for 25 words or less plus .40 per word over 25. 6x rate - \$5.00 plus .30. Copy must be typed or printed. OACG members are entitled to one free classified ad per year (MAXIMUM OF 25 WORDS). Email free ads to Creativeohio@aol.com Over 25 words subject out above rate. Name and address count as four (4) words, telephone as two (2) words. PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL CLASSIFIED AD ORDERS. Mail copy and payment to classified ads, Creative Ohio, P O Box 3080, Lexington, OH 44904 or fax to 419-884-9641 and charge to your Visa/Mastercard.

CRAFTERS: Send me your patterns and I'll do your cutting. Thin wood a specialty. Jack Van Horn, 740/849-0224, kroftthse@ohiohills.com

FOR SALE: Two wood booths plus checkout booth. Built by Mike Mayernik. Used at Penn's Colony. Jan 440/254-4445; jhike13603@aol.com

AUGUST 22 - 24. 4th EASTON ART AFFAIR. Columbus, Ohio. Fine Art and Craft show in the very popular Easton Town Center. Fee: \$250. - includes electric. \$2,000. in awards. The Easton Town Center features an upscale mix of more than 190 retail, entertainment and dining establishments. Huff's Promotions: 330/493-4130; Huffs promo@aol.com

AUGUST 23 - 24 & 30 - 31, & SEPTEMBER 1. 22nd Annual Great Trail Festival. Malvern, Ohio. 330/794-9100; www.greattrailfestival.com; great-trail@neo.rr.com

AUGUST 30 - 31. Andover Arts & Crafts Fair. Williamsfield, OH. Non-juried, outdoor, hand-crafted items only. \$85.-15'x15' space. Food, entertainment, prizes. 440/293-5904.

SEPTEMBER 21. Sunday. 32nd Frontier Arts & Crafts Show at Ghost Town South/Findlay on State Route 68, CR 40; 10AM — 5PM. Browse through a reconstructed Ghost Town in the woods. Over 200 quality crafters and demonstrators. Free parking. Entertainment. Tantalizing foods. Adm.: \$3.50, children 10 & under free. 419/422-5723. Rain or shine!

OCTOBER 18. Crafters wanted. St. John Lutheran School, Garfield Heights, OH. Misc. Crafts, Candles, Wreaths, Bakery & Much More! No Garage Sale or Flea Market Type Merchandise Please. Ruthanne Chambers: 216/441-1069; email: rchambers@tec-network.com

NOVEMBER 20 - 23. The Christmas Show 2003, IX Center. Arts, crafts, decorating and retail. 1000 booth spaces. www.christmasconnections.com or 440/835-9627.

JOIN OACG-L

A private Internet discussion group for members of the Ohio Arts & Crafts Guild.

Ask questions, compare notes, share sources, show information, etc., all with the convenience and speed of email:

It's FREE and easy to join.

Send your name, email address and membership number to tinsnip@cg-tinsmith.com and tell us you would like to join the OACG-L

ONLINE SHOW REVIEWS

1. Go to <http://www.cgtinsmith.com/oacg/index.html>
2. Click on "Creative Ohio"
3. Click on Show Reviews
4. User Name=oacguser, Password=readoacg



OACG MEMBERS ONLY Merchant Services Program

A valid, active membership is required to secure the following rates. Call 800.347.7996. YOU MUST identify yourself as an OACG member and mention Franchise Code 1294. YOU MUST choose one of the following options.

- OPTION I:** Electronically Swiped Visa & MasterCard - 1.99%
OPTION II: Hand keyed Visa & MasterCard - 2.59%

IF YOU CHOOSE OPTION I - and then choose to hand-key a sale you will be charged "non-qual" fees. So, be careful which option you choose.

VISA NON-QUAL FEES = .41% + (non-qual processing fee .50%)
or a total of 2.80%

MASTERCARD NON-QUAL FEES = .50% + (not-qual processing fee .50%) or a total of 2.99%

You must batch-out within 24 hours of an authorization or there is an additional non-qual fee of 1.10% for Visa and 1.25% for MasterCard.

ON-LINE STATEMENT - No Charge!

PAPER STATEMENT - No Charge!

You must choose one or the other. If you want both (paper statement & MyMerchantView.net) the fee is \$4.75.

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ALL DISCOVER/NOVUS CARDS, ELECTRONICALLY SWIPED OR HAND-KEYED - 2.20% + \$.08 per transaction.

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NO MONTHLY MINIMUM
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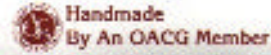
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DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS??

Please send your
email address, along with your name
and membership number to
CreativeOhio@aol.com

The Artist's Magazine

**\$7 off subscription, \$18.96 per year
call 800/333-0444
Mention OACG & Code T7AG6**



Treasures for the Tree 2003

\$200. Award to each First Place Regional Winner

Purpose: The purpose of the Treasures for the Tree project is to showcase the works of current Ohio artists and crafts-people by decorating the Governor's Residence official holiday tree with a maximum of 50 juried ornaments.

Who may enter? All Ohio artists are welcome to submit their original holiday ornament art for the juried selection.

How can I enter? You may submit an entry to the appropriate regional center between October 1 - 15:

REGIONAL CENTERS:

Southeast

The Dairy Barn
Contact: Julie Clark
8000 Dairy Lane
Athens, OH 45701
740-592-4981

Southwest:

Fitton Center for
Creative Arts
Contact: Rick H. Jones
101 S. Monument Ave.
Hamilton, OH 45011
513-863-8873

Central:

Ohio Designer Craftsman
Contact: Betty Talbott
1665 W. Fifth Ave.
Columbus, OH 43212
614-486-4402

Northeast:

Art House
Sheryl Hoffman
3119 Denison Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-398-8556

Northwest:

Arts Council of Lake
Erie-West
Contact: Martin Nagy
1700 N. Reynolds Rd.
Toledo, OH 43615
419-531-2046

- All work must be an original design and the work of the artist.
- All art and craft media are eligible.
- Ornament must be equipped to hang.
- Ornaments shall be between 3 - 5 inches in any one dimension.
- Ornaments shall not weigh more than 8 ounces.

Criteria

- Entries will be juried in five regional areas in October 2003.
- Entries will be received from October 1 to October 15.

Entries will:

- be packaged to ship
- be tagged with a 3 x 5 card listing name, address and phone number of artist
- be accompanied with an official entry blank
- Selected ornaments will be added to the Governor's Residence official permanent holiday decoration collection.
- Non-selected ornaments will be available for pick-up from the regional center at which they were dropped off.
- Winners will be notified in November by a letter from Mrs. Taft, and will also be invited to attend a reception at the Governor's Residence.

ENTRY BLANK (TO ACCOMPANY ENTRY WHEN SUBMITTED) PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

Name _____ E-Mail _____

Street _____ City _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Region _____ Zip _____

How did you learn about this? _____

Title of work _____ Local Media contact _____

Local Media Address _____

I certify that my entry is my original and agree not to publicize any winning entry until I receive a letter from Mrs. Taft.

Signature _____ Date _____

Creative Ohio

P.O. BOX 3080, LEXINGTON, OH 44904
www.tinsmith.com/oacg/index.html
Web Mistress - Marcia Giordano
Linda Rebman, Office Manager
75214.1242@compuserve.com
Guild Office Hours: M-W-F 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
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