

Creative Ohio



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

VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2005

President's Corner



Betty Cajka

On Sunday August 7, 2005, Betty Cajka, the founder of the Yankee Peddler Festival, passed away.

Betty was a long time advocate for those working in the arts & crafts community as well as those

enjoying the fruits of those working in this endeavor.

Betty quickly identified the necessary ingredients for a successful arts & crafts festival, and diligently employed them in developing one of the most successful festivals of this type in Ohio, if not in the entire country.

She worked at developing a relationship with her artists and crafts people, making you feel her real concern about events in your personal life. I would guess that she knew most, if not all, of her exhibitors personally.

She was very visible, even in the latter years when it was difficult for her to get around. She wanted you to know how glad she was to have you as part of "her show".

She was a role model for those following in her foot steps, setting high standards for all to reach for. She was encouraging, yet never hesitated to let you know

when she was disappointed in something you were doing. However, her disappointment was dispensed in a loving manner, much as a parent shows their disappointment for one of their children.

Yankee Peddler will survive, much to the credit of the excellent staff she leaves in place, however, it will never be the same.

Betty is gone, and we all will miss her greatly. But, I feel she will be watching over us, smiling when we meet her standards, and giving us that "look" when we could have done better.

John (740)432-3847

Croft_John@email.msn.com

From <http://www.yankeepeddlerfestival.com>:
Born on March 10, 1924, Betty was a longtime and dedicated promoter of arts and crafts in the region and state of Ohio. She was a founder of the nationally renowned Yankee Peddler Festival and the Yankee Peddler Foundation (which provides exhibitions to schools and churches, scholarships for aspiring crafters and aid to teachers of craft programs). As a participant in many state-wide and local organizations, Betty coordinated many programs that have enhanced arts and crafts education and the arts and crafts community. She will be missed by her loving relatives and her many acquaintances who have counted on her as a good friend and collaborator.

The OACG has donated \$50. to the Memorial Fund. Contributions may be sent to Yankee Peddler Foundation, P.O. Box 458, Sharon Center, Ohio 44274.



**OACG MEMBERS ONLY
Merchant Services Program**

Great savings on rates and fees!
OACG Membership is required to participate.

Ohio residency not required.

Discover Card Pricing: 2.20% + \$.08 (all cards)

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Discover Transaction Fee: Waived
 AMEX, Diner's & JCB Transaction Fee: \$0.10
 Chargeback Processing Fee: \$15.00
 Voice Authorizations & Voice Response Unit
 Authorizations: Waived
 Monthly Minimum: Waived
 Referrals with open-to-buy: \$2.00
 Billback Surcharge (downgrades only) 0.50%
 MyMerchantView.net on-line reporting: Waived

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 ETC4 - Touch tone 2.71% + \$0.40 (all cards)

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YourPay.com
ETC4 (Touch Tone)**

Please contact Discover Network at 1-800-347-7996 to get signed up for all of your electronic processing needs. You will need to provide Discover Network with the name you joined the OACG with, and franchise code of 1061. Discover Network will forward your information directly to FDMS for account set up to accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card and American Express and/or Diner's and JCB cards.

Questions?

Jennifer A. Davies
 Phone: (954) 851-7764
 Fax: (954) 575-6473
 Email: jennifera.davies@firstdata.com

PROMOTE YOUR ART & THE GUILD



\$6. roll - 1,000 labels per roll

Make check payable to OACG or call the office to charge your order.
 Contact info on back of last page.

**NEW GUILD
WEB SITE**

<http://www.ohioartsandcraftsguild.org>

TAKE A LOOK!

Some of the pages might still be under construction but most of the site is complete. Check the Member's Websites page - make sure your info is correct. If it isn't, or you want to be added, send an email to

CreativeOhio@aol.com

**OACG Membership
Certificates**

Melissa is currently working on the certificates for 2006 - 2007. If you have any questions, need yours right away, or corrected, contact her at 330.336.2713 or OACG_Certificate@yahoo.com

CustomWebDesigns4Artists.com

**10% discount
for guild members**

Classified Ads

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 of 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 to above rates. 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.

THE 2005 CLEVELAND/AKRON ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOWS BOOKLET. Over 450 shows. \$9.00. 440-891-9085 or CraftShowBooklet@aol.com for details on how to order.

OCTOBER 21 - 23. Cincinnati's "Fall into Christmas" Market. Sharonville Convention Center. Great location, FREE PARKING! Call Janice: 513/451-2467 for an application, or send an Email request to info@cincinnatiholidaypromotions.com

FOR SALE: Going out of business. Brother BES-1216 single-head 2001 embroidery machine. Like new with software & many accessories. 440/946-1073

CAMERA READY AD FEES

BUSINESS CARD SIZE: 3.5" X 2"

1x	3x	6x	12x
50.	45.	40.	35. each issue

1/3 PAGE - VERTICAL OR HORIZONTAL:

(2.25" 9.25") (4.75" x 4.5")

1x	3x	6x	12x
95.	90.	85.	80. each issue

1/6 PAGE - VERTICAL OR HORIZONTAL:

(2.25" x 4.5") (3.25" x 4")

1x	3x	6x	12x
70.	65.	60.	55. each issue

You too can make a difference.

VOLUNTEER NOW!
THE GUILD NEEDS YOUR HELP.

Email: OHIOACG@aol.com or call 419.884.9622

WELCOME! NEW MEMBERS

American Coin Rings LLC

Clio, MI

Handmade Rings & Bracelets

Megan Brothers - Massillon, OH

brothers_megan@yahoo.com

Photography

Elaine Dalrymple - Troy, OH

ohiolaine@aol.com

Wire wrap jewelry

Michael Hollen - Pittsburgh, PA

lhollen@adelphia.net

Candles

Serendipity Country Candles

MEMBERS ONLY

SUBMIT A SHOW REVIEW - sign on to our web site, <http://www.ohioartsandcraftsguild.org>. Click on "Submit Show Review," fill out the form, click "submit show review." It's really that simple. Reviews are posted without names, but membership is verified.

READ A SHOW REVIEW - sign on to our web site, <http://www.ohioartsandcraftsguild.org>, click on "Read Show Reviews," Enter UserId: showreviews, Password:readnow (both are lower case, no spaces) UserId and Password will change periodically, and will be posted in this (Members Only) monthly newsletter.

JOIN US ONLINE - A FREE private Internet discussion group for OACG members only. Ask questions, compare notes, share sources, show information, etc., all with the convenience and speed of email. Send your name and email address to monkoria@yahoo.com and tell us you would like to join the OACG-L

COMING SOON

The ability to PAY ONLINE [using any credit/debit card] via the guild's web site.

-Membership Dues -Donations -Classified Ads



OACG Featured Artist

September 2005



Katy Abbott

Lampworker
P.O. Box 18243, Cleveland Heights, OH, 44118-0243
(216) 832-0373
katy@abbottglassdesigns.com
www.abbottglassdesigns.com

I never considered myself an artist growing up because I did not enjoy traditional art classes. I took some ceramics classes and loved throwing pots on the wheel, but never pursued art formally.

In 1995, while I was working on my master's degree in gerontology (the study of aging), a friend showed me how to string beads into jewelry. I took some basic bead stringing classes and enjoyed having a creative outlet. As I continued to purchase beads to string, I kept coming across beautiful one of a kind handmade glass

beads and boy were they expensive!! I thought if I could learn how to make them I wouldn't have to spend all that money. HA! If I only knew how much I would spend on equipment, classes, and supplies! In 1997 we moved to Cleveland so I could start a Ph.D. program at Case Western Reserve University and I happened to find a video at the Shaker Heights Library on how to make beads. After watching it about 50 times, I worked up the nerve to try it and have never looked back.

Working with hot glass is so enjoyable because it is a medium that constantly challenges me. I feel like I am exactly where I am supposed to be when I am making beads. It also provides me with some quite, meditative time. Currently, I make jewelry and home accessories such as candlesticks, pocket vases, and fan pulls. I try to put my beads everywhere I can!

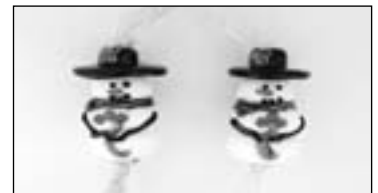
I participate in about ten juried fine arts and crafts shows and a couple of bead shows a year. Thanks to the OACG I picked up a used Craft Hut tent this spring that has been wonderful! I have found that over the past 6 years of doing shows customers have become more aware and appreciative of glass bead making.



With my husbands help, I started selling my beads on eBay in January and that has been both a blessing and a curse! We struggled for several weeks before feeling like we knew what we were doing.

Currently, Ginko Gallery in Oberlin sells some of my things. I find it difficult to keep up with the production for juried shows, eBay, web site sales, and galleries. Tracking inventory and making sure I get paid from galleries has been a time consuming challenge in my experience.

I've had two wonderful opportunities to demonstrate my craft on TV. First, on the local Cleveland PBS show Applause and a few months later on the HGTV show Crafters Coast to Coast. While the tapings were stressful, we had sales off our web site after the programs aired.



I resigned from my full time job with Case Western Reserve University in January 2005 and in June completed my Ph.D. in Sociology. I'm on the job market for a faculty position starting August 2006. In the mean time, I've been doing some writing for *The Crafts Report Magazine* and *Step by Step Beads* (Sept/Oct '05). I'm hoping to increase my name recognition by continuing to write articles and step-by-step sections for various trade journals.

Our future goals include opening a store front gallery with enough space for me to teach classes. Right now, I don't have a location to teach beginners but a long list of people who want to learn. We're not sure where we'll end up. I'm not that fond of the Cleveland winters so we're hoping for a warmer climate. You are all welcome to visit us where ever we end up!

Dear Editor: in response to the August 2005 President's Corner

What has happened to our sales at shows?

John,

You are on the mark. I am a bit more brutal in my assessment of the matter. I lay it all to GREED. In the 1960's a man would pick up a piece of firewood and whittle out a small dog. That small dog was taken to an Art & Craft fair where it was sold for a couple dollars. The buyer stood and watched as the man whittled out another dog. The buyer was happy for the experience. The man was pleased that he and the buyer had connected.

Today in the interest of providing more dogs, that same man is using high speed equipment to turn out thousands of dogs to fill orders from the various outlets. This same dog is taken to the Art & Craft fairs where the public is expected to pay a premium price for the dog after paying an admission charge to get into the event. That buyer is no longer provided with the opportunity to see the dog whittled from a piece of firewood. Why should the buyer pay a high price, walk around in the heat and dust to buy the same item they can purchase elsewhere for less money in an air conditioned environment?

I think the original Art & Craft fairs have been hijacked by promoters who are looking for greedy marketers and marketers who have no ethics and are willing to do anything for a buck. The public has caught on. This sounds like an indictment of all artists, craftsmen and promoters. I do not mean it that way. There are creditable artists just as there are creditable show promoters. But, it is not me who is making this judgment call, it is the public who is being turned off by the whole experience. It is going to take something drastic to bring them back. There will have to be a return to the basics. Provide something special and unique. There are plenty of people out there looking for "something different". We can provide it.

There are event promoters out there who are

adhering to the original idea. Provide a unique experience to the public by demanding that the merchants provide authentic hand made merchandise which is appropriate and of a high quality. There is hope.

Thanks for bringing the issues to the table for discussion. We need more of it.

Austin Jones
Prints by AJ
Point Pleasant, WV USA
austin@printsbyaj.com
<http://www.printsbyaj.com>

REMINDER!

**Treasures for the Tree
deadline fast approaching.
Oct 1 - 15.**

All Ohio artists and craftspeople are welcome to submit one original holiday ornament art for the juried selection.

HOW CAN I ENTER? You may mail or drop off one entry to the appropriate regional center between October 1 - 15.

\$200. AWARD

TO EACH 1ST PLACE REGIONAL WINNER

**Guidelines & Application
available online**

**<http://www.ohioartsandcraftsguild.org>
or call the guild office**

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Creative Ohio

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GUILD'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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