

WAYNE COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE.... NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2005

The Newsletter is a monthly online publication that welcomes input from members of the Wayne County Arts Alliance and others interested in extending the beneficial influence of the arts.

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Photos contributed by: Jay Epstein, Audrey Hill, Nancy Dymond, John Rocklin



New Members

We warmly welcome new individual members:
Donie Schmidt, James Marshall, and Edward and Jessica Williams.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS



If you like music - Open Mic at the Fireside Restaurant needs you to come out and have fun every Wed. evening from 8 - 10 p.m. Note the new later times!

If you write or take photos at WCAA events -
Please consider contributing to the WCAA Newsletter. Email us at
artsallianceness@yahoo.com.

First Friday...

“There is a powerful energy in color. The conscious self is not aware that color is a world in which we live,” says Roger Hill, the painter, in answer to a question about the

areas of movement and dynamic suspense that appear in his vivid paintings inspired by his observations of Wayne County countryside.

If Roger Hill the painter expresses his involvement in the world of color much like an avid gardener expresses his intense interest in the development of his plantings, it may be due to a concurrent stream of life in which he serves as manager of the Varcho Veda herb garden at the Himalayan Institute.

“Wayne County Colors,” a display of Roger Hill’s oil paintings and watercolors debuted for one night at Central Park Gallery on November 4. Gallery-goers feasted their eyes on Hill’s light-infused scenic dramas and their taste buds on apple cider pressed from the fruit of a hillside orchard that Hill manages. Three musical groups delighted attendees as they made their way through the gallery. In the early part of the evening Shannon Sexton sang accompanied by guitarist Dan Engvaldsen followed by a classical music mix by the Bethany Chamber Ensemble. A perfect evening of arts and enjoyment was brought to a close by musical duo, Roger Hill on guitar and new WCAA board member Ralph Liberto on saxophone.

December's First Friday is scheduled to be the final presentation for the First Friday program. Please join us from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, December 2 to view the work of painter, Michael 'O Neill. Many thanks to Jerry and Marilyn Swendsen for providing the use of their Central Park Gallery and to Trix Render for taking the steps to make it happen.

ARTISTS EXHIBITING...

WCAA members Yanni Glykokokalos and Raymond Rocklin exhibition of Abstract Expressionism and Metal Sculpture at Lizza Studios, 155 Bridge St, Tunkhannock, PA October 16 through January 2006. . For more information call 570-1000.

SHORT READINGS CONCLUDES ITS 2005 SEASON

What a great turnout for the final session of the 2005 Short Readings Series! Organizers and friends were sent scurrying to locate chairs for all the guests. Chairperson Frances Gruber, who had hoped that an unstructured evening would attract writers who desired to share their new completed works, was not disappointed. Among the offerings were a new, children’s story by Pauline Glykokokalos beautifully read by Joan Hill; poems and a very honest and intimate essay narrated in a light-hearted manner about the experience of Gender Identity Disorder by one of our younger poets.

People congregated during the break, enjoying each other’s company and sampling the refreshments. Afterwards David Wolf played and sang two hypnotically beautiful songs and read his new poem, which manifested an unusual answer to the question – Does art create life or does life create art? An impromptu talk by Yanni Glykokokalos expressing the gratitude he feels for the 5000 people of Honesdale who remind him of his home town

in Greece was followed by a song sung in the beautiful Greek language. Nancy Dymond read her two newest poems, Complete Breath and The Third Season.

Please plan ahead to attend the Spring 2006 Short Readings which begin on the last Saturday in April at 7 o'clock at Joan Hill's beautiful Summerhill Studio on Ash Street in Bethany, PA.

ART STUDENTS CAREER DAY!

Hi! My name is Alex Griffis. I am a junior art student at Honesdale High School. For my senior project I am planning a Career Day for the Honesdale High School Art Students. I am interested in artists, gallery owners, teachers, college art students and anyone whose life involves the arts, who feels they would like to share their work, art experiences, etc. to help inform students of their choices and possible paths of art.

I know each path that we choose may not always lead us to where we think we're going, but it will guide us on our journey. Different experiences could open our eyes to be able to recognize if we have a talent to travel those paths.

Career Day will be held from 8:30 am to 11:30 am on Thursday, January 19th, 2006, at the Honesdale High School. It will be set up with different discussion groups so you will be given a certain time slot to participate, although you are welcome to attend the entire session.

So, if you are interested and willing to share your knowledge, please contact me at (570) 251-8883 or send an e-mail to Ms. Silberlicht (my pottery teacher) at teachart@ptd.net. Thanks and hope to see you there!!!!



OPEN MIC CONTINUES TO PLEASE AND AMAZE...

The Fireside Restaurant on Rt. 191 and Oregon Tpk. is the place to be on Wednesday evenings from 8 to 10 p.m. The musical offerings range from folk rock standards through blues and jazz to reggae and sitar. Come to listen, come to play.

LIFE DRAWING.....meets on the first Thursday of each month from 7 pm to 10 pm at Joan Hill's Studio in Bethany, PA. The next monthly meeting will be held on December 1. Fees are \$15 for members and \$30 for nonmembers for each 3-month season. Single sessions are \$10 per session. To sign up or for information please call Sue Mycka at (570) 224-4598 or Joan at (570) 253-6824.

NATURE'S GRACE EXHIBIT.....Roger Hill will be the featured artist at the "Nature's Grace" showcase on Main Street, Honesdale for the month of December.

REVIEWS...

Better Half Dead...

A Play Written by Joan Torres and Performed by the Lakeside Players

(WCAA sponsored the November 5th production of the play.)

Believability is not always a writer's highest priority. And why should it be? Would we have Richard Wagner's magnificent Ring Cycle, J.R.R. Tolkein's superb "Lord of the Rings", Frank Baum's beloved "Wizard of Oz" or J.K. Rowlings's magical "Harry Potter" series if their editors had demanded reality and realism?

On the other hand when a writer walks the edge between believable and highly improbable, it is up to the audience to cut them a break if they so wish, or crucify them for playing both sides of the fence. Joan Torres' play "Better Half Dead" is one such piece of writing. Its many convoluted plot twists could not help but leave the audience intoning a collective "Huh???" at the final curtain.

Forgoing plausibility, the play did manage to have a few good (and rightly deserved) jabs at a variety of sitting ducks, among them artists and the art world, land developers, trustee children and dysfunctional family types.

The Lakeside Players' production of the play made the best of a decidedly wacky script. Marylou Ambrose shone as the classically fragile 'new ager' hopelessly in love with the wrong guy. Roxanne Swartz played the self-centered, hardball bitch with style and verve. Tony Swartz's comedic agility brought an added pathos to the character of the pitifully inept, corrupt husband. Paul Podolsky's understated, sensitive portrayal of the family's gay lawyer was a delight and Marty Courtney's playing of the misguided artist/lover was well acted and convincing.

It was not a night to debate the script, but rather to sit back and enjoy the performance of a well rehearsed theatrical company whose attention to detail, timing and delivery was spot on. In an interview following the final show, Marylou Ambrose, co-founder of Lakeside Players, commented that the play had brought in record attendance for the 7-year old company and that the cast had all agreed they were sorry when the play finished its run. "The plot was complicated and pulling it off wasn't easy. But we never had so much fun. We miss it", she said.

~ Review by Joan Soap



My Book Report: War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning

by Walter S. Mendler

for THE BOOK REPORT PROJECT (<http://www.bookreportproject.us>)

For this round, in honor of Veteran's Day I have selected Chris Hedges' War is a Force That Gives Us Meaning (Public Affairs, 2002).

As a pacifist, one of the common phrases I hear with some regularity is "But no one wants war." Chris Hedges' book, at once enlightening and darkly disturbing, puts the lie to this canard. Hedges was a war correspondent, a veteran of conflicts in Bosnia and elsewhere, who came to realize that when he was away from conflict he missed it terribly – in fact, he loved it, craved it, was addicted to it. And he shows exactly how this addiction works - its effects on the psyche, and how humans try to rationalize those effects away, just as an alcoholic tries to maintain that "It's not a problem, I can handle it."

He documents, from his experiences, the exhilarating buildup to war, its devastating realities, and its equally (if not more so) devastating aftereffects. Hedges is not a pacifist, and says his goal is not to stop war but to understand it. Those of us who do seek to prevent war must understand what drives the people who (secretly or not) love it.

And by the way - we in the peace community have to understand that Hedges is talking about us too. We also feel, don't we, the exhilaration of finding an enemy deserving of attack and entering into confrontation with that enemy. Even though we might call our approach nonviolent, we have to beware that war's charms do not warp our psyches as well.

One of the reviewers of this book on Amazon.com, a Dr. Mark Goulston, is a therapist among whose patients are many veterans. I will close with the words of one of those patients, who summarized war as "the seducing, using, and in the end discarding of young men to wage a battle between the egos of older men who in the name of God desperately try to hold onto power they never deserved to have in the first place."

That sounds about right to me.

INSTRUCTION IN THE ARTS...

WCAA member ***Hana Gorman*** instructs weekly classes in Drawing, Painting, Polymer Clay as well as weekend craft seminars. Call for detailed brochure: 570-253-5949

WCAA members ***Anne and Ed Nocera*** (Nocera Art Tile) teach a number of the clay arts: Tile Making as an Art Form, Pottery on the Wheel, Glaze Painting, Sculpture. 570-729-7946. Register at 570-729-7946 or online www.art-tile.com/classes has a full course description.

The Artist's Way - January 2006-April 2006
Facilitated by Tara

*Explore your creative side in this 12-week course based on the best-selling book **The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity** by Julia Cameron. Meets Sundays 1:30-3:30 p.m. from Jan.22 through Apr.16 (no class Feb. 19) at the Himalayan On Main Street, 630 Main St., Honesdale, PA. For more info, contact Tara at 570-647-1550, Ext. 3403.*



HAPPENINGS...

December 1-January 31, 2006 Hemlock Farms artists' showcase at Chant Realtors in Lords Valley. Opening reception Fri., Dec. 2 from 5-7.

Poetry Nights are 6 to 8 p.m. At The Himalayan Cafe on Main Street, Honesdale
The next dates for poetry nights are: Dec. 10, Jan. 14 (with 5:00-6:00 discussion on Sylvia Plath led by Mary Greene before the open mic), Feb. 11 ... with more to come!!!



OPPORTUNITIES!.....

CALL FOR ARTISTS

WCAA is seeking artists to participate in its 2006 Artists Open Studio Tour scheduled to take place August 25, 26 and 27, 2006. The event is juried and open to artists who maintain a studio in Wayne County. Interested artists are encouraged to contact WCAA as soon as possible. The deadline for application is February 28. For information call 570-785-5322.

The Catskill Art Society is seeking submissions for Catskill Art Expo 2006, a regional exhibition to be held from March 4, 2006 - April 2, 2006. For information call 845-436-4227. The deadline is January 15, 2006.

Wanted: Creative artist for ceiling mural work. For information call Ron Whitiak at 947-7964.

WANTED: Part-time Executive Director for the Wayne County Arts Alliance to act as principal publicity person and public advocate. Responsibilities include writing grants, computer and website updates, managing office, supporting committees and attending

board meetings. Must be passionately committed to WCAA's mission of promoting the arts in Wayne County. Familiarity with non-profit management, fundraising and volunteerism and plus. Send resume to : WCAA, 1875 Fair Ave, Honesdale, PA 18431

CALL FOR ENTRIES – 2007 GALLERY SEASON

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance is calling for entries for 2007. The deadline is Friday, January 21, 2006. Artists should submit ten to twelve images of recent works as either slides (2"x2" paper or plastic mount) or jpeg images on CD ROM (300 dpi images labeled with title or number only), a corresponding script with title, dimension and medium, and resume. The program priority is to exhibit high quality work by professional and emerging artists who live part-time or full-time in the Mid-Hudson, Catskill, or Upper Delaware River regions. All media and styles are considered, as are installations and proposals by curator. The gallery season includes solo and group shows. Submit by mail to DVAA Gallery Program, PO Box 170, Narrowsburg, NY 12764. There is no fee for submissions. For more information contact Gallery Director Rocky Pinciotti.

The ARTS FOR THE PARKS competition was created in 1986 by the National Park Academy of the Arts. Our program is designed to celebrate representational artists, to enhance public awareness of the National Parks and to contribute to programs benefiting the National Park System. It is an annual competition that honors artists who have best captured the spirit of our National Park System. <http://www.artsfortheparks.com/>

Berenice Abbott Prize for an Emerging Photographer

The prize includes all expenses paid for a one-person exhibition at the Julia Dean Gallery in Los Angeles, all matting and framing of prints, invitations, and postage, opening reception, airfare to Los Angeles for the exhibit opening, hotel and rental car for two nights, plus a Canon 20D Digital Camera. Deadline: December 9, 2005. Call, visit the website, or e-mail for more information: The Julia Dean Photo Workshops, 3111 Ocean Front Walk, Suite 102, Marina del Rey, CA 90292. Phone: 310.821.0909. E-mail: julia@juliadean.com. Web site: juliadean.com/contests.html

Belluard Bollwerk International

The Belluard Festival (BBI) is an event that produces and presents artistic projects in Fribourg (Switzerland) since 1983. It takes place yearly early Summer in a medieval fortress. The BBI is looking for relevant and innovative projects. Any form or means serving the project's purpose is admitted. Each commissioned project will be funded by the BBI up to a sum of 6'000 Euros. Participants are free to take any steps they deem necessary to acquire additional funding. The projects will be supported by the BBI (organization, distribution, promotion). They will be presented during the festival and labelled as BBI productions. Rules : 1. The contest is open to all. 2. Each project is to be presented on 2 A4-format pages at most. A detailed budget shall be included. Plans, drawings, photos, videos, recordings... are highly recommended. 3. Projects must be sent by January 17, 2006 at the latest (postal stamp is proof) at Belluard Bollwerk International, Contest 2006, PO Box 214, CH - 1701 Fribourg. Or by email, at info@belluard.ch. 4. The projects are evaluated by an international jury. No mail will be exchanged. 5. All participants shall be made aware of the results by February 17th, 2006.

6. The material sent will not be returned. www.belluard.ch/contest2006

Alexia Foundation Photography Competition

Open to all individual photographers. The Alexia Foundation offers a grant to assist in the photographic production of a picture story that furthers the foundation's goals of promoting world peace and cultural understanding. Deadline: January 16, 2006. Professional and student categories, please visit the website for complete details, www.alexiafoundation.org

Little White Lies

First Person Arts announces 2006 Festival Memoir Writing, Photography, and New Documentary Film Contest Unified Theme Little White Lies. Have you ever told a little white lie? First Person Arts is giving you the chance to come clean with your dirty little secrets and harmless lies! Tattle on yourself in one of our three contests and you just might find yourself in the spotlight at the First Person Festival in June! The First Person Festival contests are part of our effort to bring recognition to local emerging artists through artists workshops, showcases, and creative arts contests. The contests are produced with its partners The Philadelphia City Paper, The Philadelphia Film Society, and InLiquid.com. Deadline for film entries: January 15, 2006. For more information go to: www.firstpersonarts.org. First Person Arts, One South Broad St. 17th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

Peace Arch Park Sculpture Exhibition

Artists are invited to submit outdoor sculptures to be featured at the Ninth Annual Peace Arch Park International Sculpture Exhibition from May 1-October 1, 2006. All materials must be completely weatherproof and suitable for public viewing. Site-specific proposals are acceptable for entry. All participating artists receive awards. The United States Canada Peace Anniversary Association (USCPAA), in cooperation with Washington State Parks, presents the exhibit. Entry deadline: December 30, 2005. Entry fee \$10. For a prospectus by regular mail send a SASE to: Christina Alexander, United States Canada Peace Anniversary Association, Box 4564, Blaine WA 98231-4564. Phone: 360.332.7165. E-mail: uscmaa_peacearch@yahoo.com. Web site: www.peacearchpark.org/callforentries.htm.

Ceres Seventh National Juried Exhibition

National Juried Show, Ceres Seventh National Juried Exhibition. Juror: Cora Rosevear, Department of Painting and Sculpture, Associate Curator, Museum of Modern Art. Exhibition dates: May 23-June 17, 2006. Application/Entry Fee: \$35. Deadline: February 10, 2006. All Media, Cash Awards. Complete details at www.ceresgallery.org/new/events/index.html or for prospectus send #10 SASE to: Ceres Gallery, 547 West 27th St. NY, NY 10001.

Small Works Exhibition

Red Dot Fine Art announces call for 3rd Annual International Small Works Exhibition which will be exhibited at Red Dot Fine Art located on historic Canyon Road in Santa Fe, NM. The exhibition call is open to all individuals working in two dimensional and three

dimensional work in any media. All work must be no larger than 16" x 16" or 16" square and completed since January 2002. Deadline for entries: December 10, 2005. Exhibition dates: January 15-28, 2006. Fee: Non-refundable \$30 for 1-3 images (slides or JPEG) \$5 for each additional image submitted. Download a prospectus at reddotfineart.com or send a SASE to: Red Dot Fine Art, ATTN: Small Works Exhibition, 616 ½ B Canyon Road, Santa Fe, NM 87501. If you have questions, please contact the gallery at the address above or at 505.820.0114.

Call for Women Photographers

Photographer Joan Glase is curating an exhibit in the Delaware Arts Center's Loft Gallery in June 2006 titled *As We See Us*. Women photographers with a flair for portraiture and self portraits are encouraged to submit. Those interested in participating can contact Joan at 845-932-8499 or email samples of your work to glasephoto@earthlink.net.

Wildlife Artists Wanted

The Catskill Center's Erpf Gallery is looking for artists working in all media for its 2006 season of exhibits. The theme will be the diverse Catskill fauna, wild or domesticated. Photographers, painters, illustrators, watercolorists, sculptors and the like who have incorporated the subject into their art are encouraged to submit slides, photos or CDs to: Inverna Lockpez, Erpf Gallery Curator, The Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, P.O. Box 504, Route 28, Arkville, NY 12406. For more info call 845-586-2611 or email inverna@catskill.net. website: www.catskillcenter.org

DEADLINE DECEMBER 16 - Summit, NJ - ART CONTEST - 2D, 3D

20th International Juried Show, presented by the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts. Open to all artists, all media. Juror: Patterson Sims, Director, Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ (formerly of Museum of Modern Art, NY and the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY). Slide entries due December 16, 2005 for February 17, 2006 exhibition. Send SASE to: New Jersey Center for Visual Arts, 68 Elm Street, Summit, NJ 07901. Download prospectus at <http://www.njcva.org>, call Mari D'Alessandro at 908-273-9132, or Email: njcva@njcva.org

Website:<http://www.artcenternj.org>

Brady Magazine's 2005 Open Theme Poetry Contest - Online Submission Deadline: December 15

First prize: \$100 plus publication in *firstwriter*.magazine (prize includes access to all *firstwriter.com* databases for one year); Second prize: \$60 plus admission to Updraft, an online poetry course to ignite your imagination; Third prize: \$20, a CoolStuff4Writers gift pack and copies of 2006 Poet's Market (Writer's Digest) and NewPages Guide to Literary & Alternative Magazines. Entry fee is \$5 and includes a critique of each poem entered. Critiques will be sent to each entrant between December 16 - December 31. Winners will be announced January 2. Please see our website for contest details and the entry form: <http://www.brady magazine.com/contest.html>

2005 Perigee Poetry Contest - Open Now - Postmark Deadline: December 31

This year our most popular contest features increased cash prizes and more chances to win. Pushcart winning poet Steve Kowit joins us as Finalist Judge. All four winning entries (and any honorable mentions) will be published in our 2006 anniversary issue. We are looking for careful form and craft, commitment to voice and skilled creative execution. All styles and subject matters are welcome. Any number of poems may be submitted. The reading fee is \$7 for every three poems. Results will be announced on February 15. Please read the contest guidelines and submit online at www.perigee-art.com