

News from *The Plastic Club*

Important!!!

The Plastic Club By-Laws require that we elect officers and members of the Board of Directors every two years. This is an election year and April is our election month. This is the time. A ballot should be enclosed in the mailing with the names of the candidates and the positions they are standing for. Please mark your ballot and return it as soon as possible.

The By-Laws of the Plastic Club were last revised in 1982. The way the Club is run has changed in all those years. Also, new tax regulations and requirements of the State of Pennsylvania regarding non-profit organizations such as ours, have changed. To comply with the new rules, and update the By-Laws to reflect how the Club is actually run, a committee, headed by Bonnie Schorske and including Rick Wright and Cynthia Arkin, made the necessary changes. We thank them for the work that went into this process. The revised By-Laws were sent via email to members at the beginning of March and are now available for review on our web site. Those members who do not have access to the internet may request a printed copy to be sent to them. On your ballot, please vote to accept these changes. We need fifty percent of the membership to vote in order to put these changes into effect. Thank you.

Betty Retires! Not Quite!

Elizabeth Hutton MacDonald, or, Betty, as we all know her, has retired from the Board of Directors. This ends over forty years of service on the governing board of the Plastic Club. During that time she has held just about every position on the Board available including the office of President twice. Part of the reason she did this is that for a number of years there weren't very many members in the Club that were available to assume these responsibilities. We believe it is through Betty's determination to keep the Club going that it is still here today. Among Betty's many accomplishments are the introduction of male members (1991), annual dinners, beginning the newsletter, initiating free student memberships, establishing monthly reviews of new member applicants, beginning the print workshop, and many other ideas that helped make the Plastic Club a better place to be. Betty isn't leaving the Club. You'll still see her at openings, parties, and dinners helping out as usual. She is a wonderful person and we all thank her for so many years of service to the Plastic Club.

A Shady Story

Years ago, during World War II, offices and houses in Philadelphia were required to "black out" their windows at night. It was feared that the Nazis could use the lights to find targets to bomb. So, the Plastic Club had an opaque shade installed that could be raised and lowered over the skylight. Several years ago, the 70 year old shade gave up the ghost. Now we have replaced that shade. No, it's not because of any new threat to our safety. It's so the Plastic Club Cinemateque can begin their programs at 6:30 P.M. in a darkened studio while it is still daylight during the summer months. Workshop monitors also use the shade to help create a chiaroscuro effect by dimming the studio lights and using spotlights trained on the model. Check it out.

DRAWING MARATHON

Our first **Drawing Marathon** was held on Sunday, March 13th. From 10A.M. to 10 P.M. There were portrait models, life models, and moving models posing on all three floors of the Club. There was also a still life set-up in the Tea Room for those of that persuasion. Food was available for a donation. Everyone had a good time. The money raised went to *Sunshine Arts* run by our fellow member **Sheila Modglin**. Sunshine Arts is an organization that offers children of all ages a place to express themselves through the arts (painting, drawing, singing, dancing, acting in films, and making music) at their facility in Upper Darby. To get more information about them go to their web site www.sunshine-arts.org



Betty MacDonald

Hand to Paper

What artist doesn't have something in their portfolio that involves paper in some way. Drawings, gouaches, watercolors, prints, photographs..even paper maiche..are done on or with paper. It is no surprise then, that we had a nice turnout for the **Hands on Paper** show that opened on Sunday, February 7th. At the awards ceremony, **Susan Stromquist** handed out the prize certificates that were decided by juror **Christine Blair**. **Mitchell Landsman** got First Prize for his gouache entitled "A Little Late" (a very realistic view of our studio.) Second Prize went to **Marlene D'Orazio Adler** for her collage and collograph, "Red Bird's Garden View." Third Prize was awarded to **Janice Ward** for her paper-maiche figurine called "W-A-A-A" (a mother holding a baby.) Honorable Mentions went to **Peter Cottingham, Susan Ploeg, Susan DiPronio, and David Guinn**.

Small Worlds

The **Small Worlds** show, one of our old, annual shows opened on Sunday, March 6th with a jam packed reception with plenty of food and drinks. The always popular Small Worlds show and the Phil Sumpter show downstairs combined to make it a very large opening. The more the merrier! 104 artists fit their ideas into a 13" or less frame and the works filled the building. The juror, **Evan Fugazzi** picked **Judy Engle's** collage of a little town for First Prize. **Bob Jackson** took Second Prize with his construction of wood and various found objects called "Fire." **Helene L. Halstuch** got Third Prize for her oil called "Le Grande Arbre." **Sheldon Strober, Bill Myers, Claudia Eckel, and Mitchell Landsman** received Honorable Mentions. Congratulations to all you "small minded" people!

Bob Jackson Gallery Shows

American Color Print Society

In January and February, the American Color Print Society held an exhibit of the works done by the members of their Board of Directors. 25 examples of printmaking done in various techniques were on view. Taking part in the show were, **Carole J. Meyers**, the President of ACPS and **Alan J. Klawans, Sy Hakim, Elizabeth H. MacDonald, Art Brenner, Marlene D'Orazio Adler, Nancy Alter, and Hee Sook Kim**.

Phil Sumpter: The Storyteller

On March 6th, Bob Jackson's 85 year-old friend, **Phil Sumpter**, was the guest of honor in the Bob Jackson Gallery where a one-man show of his work was on the walls. Phil showed 32 of his colored ink and charcoal drawings of Pirates, Indians, and his specialty, Black Cowboys. These drawings are strong, with a bravura technique and a lot of verve. He also exhibited a number of sculptures. It was a very good show. At the opening reception, Phil gave a spirited talk about his work and his long life that was very enjoyable.

Animation Festival

Once again, **Chris Magee**, a teacher of animation at the University of the Arts, brought his students and professional animators to the Club to show their work to a full house of fans of animation. About 38 short works were screened. Afterwards, there was a lively Q&A among the animators and the audience. A reception followed with pizza and other goodies provided by the Club. Nice!



Andy Hoffmann

Club member **Andy Hoffmann** gave a presentation at the February Salon about his work as a cartoonist. He also brought with him his latest book of cartoons entitled, "Our Northern Skies." This is a book about pollution, the environment, and global warming, all told by the denizens of an ice shelf in the Arctic. The polar bears, seals and some out-of-place penguins deal with their declining habitat caused by the encroachment of mankind and the effects of pollution in a humorous way. Beautifully drawn and written, the book was bought by a lot of people in the audience. Andy also presents cartoons from his collection on DVD and film at the monthly movie nights. Thank you, Andy!

NUMBER PLEASE!

With this mailing most of you will have received the **2016-2017 Plastic Club Members Directory**.

Inevitably, there are already some corrections. Take note of these email address changes:

Richard C. Meyer rmeyer.architect@gmail.com

Janice Ward artssake3@gmail.com

If you see any mistakes and/or changes to be made, please let us know so we can correct the main membership file. We want to keep in touch.

In Memoriam

Thelma Segal died in January. She was a long-time member of the Club and a regular participant of the Thursday morning workshop. She primarily worked in watercolor and used photographs as source material. For the last two years she had been living in Florida with her family. We have missed her at the Club.