

Dennis Parker's portrait of Jim Hiller, painted during the April 2008 meeting of the Oklahoma Pastel Society, was a great likeness of Jim, wasn't it? The care that Dennis puts into getting the features of his subject right almost guarantees that the portrait will be successful. Thanks, Dennis, for another fun and informative program!

After really good participation in the "bring a painting to the meeting and you could win a prize!" at our March meeting, well, let's just say that the participation in that new idea wasn't as great at the April meeting. SO, shall we give the "bring a painting to the meeting" one more try? Remember, there will be THREE winners – Members' Choice, Program Presenter's Choice and Door Prize winner (but you've got to put your name in to have a chance to win the Door Prize!) One more thing – make sure your painting is framed.

May Program – Painting with Energy & Purpose

In Becky Way's workshops, she stresses focusing your energy on the portion of your subject that is of the most interest to you. Her demo on Monday, May 12th, will expand on that. Becky's winning entry in The Pastel Journal's "Creative Spark" challenge (go to her website www.beckyway.com to see the painting on her home page – it's great!) is a prime example of what combining your **energy**, focus and **purpose** can create.

So join us at the next OPS meeting, on **Monday, May 12th**, at the Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 N.W. 36th Street, in Oklahoma City, which **begins at 6:30 p.m.** If you need directions, please contact Sue Ann at sueann1022@cox.net or call her at 405-330-5467. Nancy Windsor and Linda Probst are this month's snack volunteers; you only need to bring your beverage of choice!

Future Programs and Other Ideas

At least one of the programs for Fall 2008 is set – Glen Thomas will be presenting our September program. Mitsuno Reedy had planned on demonstrating at the October meeting but she might be out of the country then. Never fear – the OPS board has several other ideas in the "making a list and checking it twice" stage; you can be sure that we'll have fun

and informative programs for both October and November.

OPS prez Jan Hutchinson has suggested that since we're not meeting during the summer months (June, July and August), this might be a good time to consider having a couple of Mid-Summer Paint Outs. This area – heck, the whole state – has lots of good sketching/painting places; the hard parts will be deciding the "when" and the "where." Let one of the officers know if you'd be interested in something like that. I mean, three months is a long time between our get-togethers!

Spring 2008 Show in Paseo is a Winner!

Our show in Paseo opened Friday, May 2nd, and we've got some fabulous art in this show! Rick McClure had his work cut out for him selecting first, second and third place winners in four categories as well as the award for Best of Show. Before we get to the listing of our winning artists, I have to let you know that while I have the names of who received awards in each of the four categories, I don't have all the names of their paintings. Hmmm...that's really great incentive for ALL of our members to head down to the Paseo district to see the show. Then everyone will know not only who the award-winners are but they'll also know the paintings names **and** what they look like! Here are our winners:

Best of Show – Sheila Minnich

Animal/Non-Representational:

- 1st – **Sheila Minnich**
- 2nd – **Bob Kaiser**
- 3rd – **Silver**

Portrait:

- 1st – **Joyce Jackson**
- 2nd – **Ella Moore**
- 3rd – **Linda Probst**

Still Life:

- 1st – **Becky Way**
- 2nd – **Pam Brewer**
- 3rd – **Jude Tolar**

Landscape:

- 1st – **Shelly Henry**
- 2nd – **Sue Ann Rodgers**
- 3rd – **Jan Hutchinson**

(continues to next page)

The people who helped pull together the opening reception deserve a big round of applause and a standing ovation: Jan Hutchinson, Donna Connelly, Jimi Layman, Linda Probst, Becky Way, Pam Brewer and Shelly Henry. Another really big "thank you!" goes to Lori Oden of Paseo ArtSpace Gallery for hanging the show (I've heard it looks wonderful!) and for providing tables, tablecloths and plenty of moral support!

Other Show Opportunities

You've seen the following information before but it's worth repeating:

The **IAPS 12th Exhibition/Web Show** is coming up. **All entries for the Web Show must be received by August 8, 2008.**

(This is also a juried show.) To get more information about either, or both, shows, call IAPS at 703-536-0308 or go to their website, www.pastelinternational.com and click on "Exhibitions."

The entry information for the **Harness Tracks of America "2008 Open Art Competition & Auction"** is as follows:

Eligibility: Open to all artists 18 or older. Art should be original work depicting the harness horse in any setting.

Entry Fees: \$10 for one entry; \$5 for each additional entry. Entries must be 4" x 6" or larger color photos; no slides accepted.

Entry Deadline is June 15, 2008. Acceptances and shipping information will be mailed in August 2008.

Awards: Best of Show: \$500/ribbon; First Place: Five \$100 awards/ribbons; Special Excellence: 10 ribbons. (This is just a brief listing of major "things to know" from the prospectus for this show. If you're interested in entering, you can contact Harness Tracks of America through their website www.harnesstracks.com or email them at info@harnesstracks.com.)

This one is coming up REALLY FAST!!! MAY 10th is the deadline for entries! The Girardot National Juried Exhibition is open to all artists 18 years and older living within the United States. Entries must be original works created in any fine art media within the last three (3) years. Categories are Painting, 3-D, Experimental and Graphic. Cash prizes, including a \$500 Best of Show award, will be given in each category based on the number of entries. A 30% commission will be retained by the Arts Council of Southeast Missouri. There's a LOT more info about this show which is attached/included with the OPS newsletter!

A lot closer to home is the **June Fest Arts Festival in Purcell, Oklahoma.** I've attached their "call for entries" brochure to the newsletter. No sales commission is charged for this show, just a \$50 fee to reserve a display space but you

are responsible for the sales tax. This arts festival takes place on Saturday, June 7, 2008, so check it out!

The **5th Annual "The Girlie Show"** is set for November 7 and 8, 2008 at the Farmer's Public Market building near Downtown OKC. Sorry guys, but this is a show that features exclusively female artists and crafters; the show is juried with all participants selected by The Girlie Show committee. If you're interested in learning more, go to www.thegirlieshow.net where you can find out all about past shows too.

Workshops!

Missouri artist Jerry Brown will be teaching a one-day "Painting Clouds in Pastel" workshop on Tuesday, May 27th – right after the Paseo Arts Festival finishes its Memorial Day Weekend run. The cost for this one-day workshop is \$75, we'll be painting in the large room that's available at AKA Gallery in Paseo. This workshop is full; if you want to be added to the wait list, please contact Janie Schmitz at janieops@sbcglobal.net or call her at 405-943-0330. If you haven't done so yet, go to the OPS website, www.okpastel.org, to see some of Jerry's wonderful paintings – you'll like what you see!

Then, later in the summer, Terry Ludwig will be back in Oklahoma City for another 3-day workshop scheduled for August 15, 16 and 17! Once again Terry will be teaching in the wonderful facilities at The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Many of you will remember that Terry is a big advocate of awarding a scholarship to his workshop. Last year's scholarship went to a wonderful senior art student from a local high school. The OPS board of directors has talked about some ways to consider how the scholarship might go to an OPS member – things like attendance, participation, possibly even a multi-chance drawing. Let us know what your ideas are!

At the time of the writing of this newsletter, **Terry's workshop IS FULL and a wait list has been started.**

Other Possible Workshops in the Future

As you know, Becky Way's "It's All About the Strokes, Folks" workshop has been postponed. BUT we're working with Becky to re-schedule it for later in 2008. And as we've said before, the Oklahoma Pastel Society is definitely blessed to have so many talented artists who are not only willing but are also extremely qualified to conduct great workshops. Let Pam know who you'd like to have here to teach a

(continues to next page)

workshop – both our own talented members and others from other areas of the state and country!

Local Workshop and Classes for ALL Artists!

Dennis Parker is offering a Life Drawing Class which continues through May. Classes will be held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. His classes and workshops are open to both beginners and more experienced artists. Contact Julie McAfee at 755-5672 or painterly1@juno.com for all the details and to sign-up.

If you'd like to take a workshop outside Oklahoma... **Maggie Price** will be teaching in a variety of places in the United States and overseas in 2008. Her workshop schedule along with contact information and a brief description is listed at www.MaggiePriceArt.com.

Well-known pastel artist **Doug Dawson** is also teaching workshops all over the United States. Go to his website, www.dougdawsonartist.com, where you can see a list of his scheduled 2008 workshops. Also you can email him at dougdawson8@aol.com or even give him a call at 303.421.4584.

Other News...

Did you know that Porch Art and School Supply carries Sennelier pastels? And full-size sheets of Art Spectrum's Colourfix pastel paper in all colors? And that they now have all the colors of Canson Mi-Tientes paper too? Even though the Sennelier pastels boxed-sets sale ended with the last day of April, Porch has wonderful things for us pastel types. As a workshop instructor recently said, you can NEVER have too many art supplies. Guess we'll all be heading to Porch real soon! (Need directions? Give them a call at 405-524-3309!)

New Members

Please welcome our two newest members to the Oklahoma Pastel Society:

Jude Tolar
2801 S. Sangre Road
Stillwater, OK 74074
405-743-4448
405-742-7820 (cell)
Email: jtolar@suddenlink.net

Mary Johnson
8703 72nd Ave. E.
Puyallup, WA 98371-6529
253-845-7139
253-948-7179 (cell)
Email: watercolor.mary@yahoo.com

We're thrilled to have you in the group!

One more thing – the OPS Website!

Sure hope you're using the re-designed and extremely user-friendly OPS website. It's beautiful, isn't it! Thank you for all your hard work, Becky Way!! Email one of your paintings, along with some biographical info, to Becky Way at beckyway@cox.net so she can add YOUR work to the Gallery page. And email Sue Ann (at sueann1022@cox.net) any of your news – if YOU don't tell us, we don't always know!

See you at the meeting!
Monday, May 12th, 6:30 p.m.
Will Rogers Garden Center
BECKY WAY – PAINTING
WITH ENERGY & PURPOSE!