



Illiana Artists

PO Box 3150, Munster, Indiana 46321
http://www.illianaartists.org

your guide to art news, events and opportunities

Executive

President

Maria Braun-Perez
maria.braun-perez@illianaartists.org

1st Vice President

TBA

2nd Vice President

Darlene Lenz

Secretary

Ann Noldin
ann.noldin@illianaartists.org

Treasurer

Marvis Schroeder
marvis.schroeder@illianaartists.org

Committees

Exhibits

TBA

Website

Cathy Feeman

Programs

Maria Braun-Perez

By-law

Executive

Social (Hospitality)

Rita Berg

Membership

Maria Braun-Perez

Publicity

Ann Noldin

Fund Raising

TBA

March 8th Demonstration

Prickly Pear Furnishings – Creative Woodworking Demonstration
Presentation by Joseph Jaeger, Artisan/Owner and Larry L. Burr, Partner

CHANGE IN MEETING AND DEMO LOCATION FOR MARCH 8, 2010 ONLY!

TIME

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

LOCATION

Paul Henry's Art Gallery
at P.H. Mueller Sons
416 Sibley Street
Hammond, Indiana 46320

PHONE

219-932-0165

DEMONSTRATION

Joseph Jaeger, Artisan/Owner and Larry L. Burr, partner of Prickly Pear Furnishings, Inc., will provide a creative woodworking demonstration including construction and assembly of a Temple Lantern (pictured above) constructed from cherry wood and art paper. The lantern will be raffled off for \$1.00 per raffle ticket. The raffle will continue through the end of May at which time a winning ticket will be drawn.



continued on page 2

Participate in the online Artist Directory

All members are invited to participate in our online Artists Directory that will include your name, biography, and (1) image of your work that best represents your style. Required materials for inclusion are:

Photograph: (1) Photograph – digital or film-based is acceptable. Deliver digital formats on CD's or portable devices.

Media: List your **Media used** in the artwork represented in the photograph provided.

Biography: Short Biography 500 – 1,000 words (shorter the better).

Contact Information: Provide your, email address, website link, phone number (can be all or your choice for viewers to find out more about you).

Please send your Artist Directory materials to Maria Braun-Perez at maria.braun-perez@illianaartists.org. Materials can also be mailed. Please refer to the member directory. Or, bring your materials to the March through May meetings. Do not Delay!

PLEASE NOTE

CHANGE IN MEETING LOCATION MARCH ONLY

Paul Henry's Art Gallery
at P.H. Mueller Sons
416 Sibley Street
Hammond, Indiana 46320
219-932-0165

continued from page 1**Joseph Jaeger, Artisan / Owner**

Joseph Jaeger's passion for art and woodworking started off when he was a young child through play and helping his parents and siblings around the house. He developed his skills and craftsmanship in school from classes such as art, music, math, architecture and shop. Joe leveraged his creative education and began creating art from wood. Joe entered an apprenticeship into the field of furniture making and has combined twenty years of experience and honing his skills to become a master craftsman in furniture design and making. As a result, Joe opened the Prickly Pear Furnishings studio in Munster, Indiana along with his partner, Larry L. Burr. To this date Joe is still reminded of his love and passion for the craft like his childhood of helping his father in the basement shop.

Larry L. Burr, Partner

Throughout Larry Burr's life art has played a significant role as he found the pencil to be his childhood tool of choice. Through drawing, Larry's inner voice guided his creative intellect and provided an outlet for childhood expression. Larry pursued a Fine Arts degree in junior college and later enlisted in the U.S. Navy during 1989 when the conflict with desert storm was declared. Larry's job classification was pattern maker 3rd class making wood patterns for the foundry. This natural material could be machined and be worked in such a fine degree of precision Larry found himself smitten. Larry re-entered the job force as a cabinetmaker and pattern maker. His greatest inspiration arrived while working at Gregg Spiess's shop where he repurpose and reworked old bars, benches, and mantels from older like items.

Company Profile

In the early spring of 2009, Prickly Pear Furnishings, Inc., entered a design competition and show at the Morton Arboretum entitled Rising from Ashes; Furniture from Lost Trees. The Rising from Ashes show required ash trees to be used as they are a by-product of damaged trees left in the wake of the emerald ash borer beetle that has killed thousands of ash trees annually. Consequently, the inner wood from these trees is salvageable as the beetles are only causing damage to the outer layers, leaving the wood usable to produce fine art studio furniture.

Ecologically friendly furnishings use materials from Urban Forest Products (UFP); trees that are either damaged from weather and storm, or removed because of utilities or homeowners decisions. Prickly Pear Furnishings, Inc., use materials from Urban Forest Products, FSC certified hardwoods/sheet goods and salvaged wood and furniture from other local sources. They design custom, hand crafted fine art studio furniture, furnishings, bars, libraries, millwork, casework, and vanities locally using low VOC water base finishes/natural oils and waxes. They also sell locally to keep their carbon footprint to a minimum.

To continue their business in a professional manner, they registered their company name and by-laws with the federal and state government on February 13, 2009. Currently, they are in the process of furthering their commitment to implement and promote eco-friendly products and technology in the continuing growth of their company.



Beveled chair on exhibit at the Morton Arboretum's exhibit Rising from Ashes; Furniture from Lost Trees.

Upcoming Demos

Mary Ann Pals



April 12, 2010

Pastel and charcoal artist, Mary Ann Pals will provide the **Illiana Artists** with a 3-value charcoal thumbnail sketch demonstration. This demonstration will follow the business portion of our regularly scheduled meeting at approximately 7:15 pm.

May 10, 2010

TBA

The Illiana Artists appreciate any suggestions on proposed demonstrators for our May meeting. If you are a member and would like to share a new technique, please contact Maria Braun-Perez at **maria.braun-perez@illianaartists.org** or refer to the member directory for additional contact information.

Artist Tom Cushing at the Hammond Public Library: Howard Branch

March 22, 2010

Tom Cushing will provide a sketching demonstration. Tom will be working with Prisma Color black pencil on a sketch pad while providing insight on how to sketching a live performance in action.

For more information and to confirm details, please contact the library at **219-844-1622**.

Illiana Artists' Prize Donation Awarded to The Valparaiso University Secondary School Showcase.

Awards Ceremony and Opening Reception Begins at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 31.

In our continuing efforts to develop our community outreach and mentoring program: experienced artists assist the beginning artists, we have presented the Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art with a \$100 prize award to be distributed as a single or divided sum at the discrepancy of the museum director, Gregg Hertzlieb.

The suggestion was initiated by our member Richard DePirro and approved by member vote during the February 8th meeting.

The Secondary School Showcase runs from March 31 through April 18, 2010. For more information, visit <http://www.valpo.edu/artmuseum>.

**Brauer Museum of Art
Center for the Arts, Valparaiso University**

1709 Chapel Drive
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383
Phone (219) 464-5365

Election Nominations Begin April 12, 2010

As our membership year winds down it is time to reflect on our successes and future goals for the 2010 - 2011 membership year. First, I would like to thank the Executive Committee members Ann Noldin, Secretary; Marvis Schroeder, Treasurer; and Rita Berg, Hospitality for your continued efforts in helping to ensure our meetings run smoothly. Also, I would like to thank Kathy Los-Rathburn for your guidance as I stepped into this role as a new member in 2009.

At this time we are sorely in need of increased participation within our group by the current membership. Please refer to the front of this newsletter for committee openings and considerations for the April nominations.

I regret to report that we do not have an Exhibits Committee position filled. What this means to the group is that no future date has been set for the Regional Juried Show in 2012. There is currently no active member in charge of the Member's Only Show this July. **THIS MEANS NO SHOWS!**

As President I have taken on a number of duties including: meetings, demonstration, newsletters, programs, website development and maintenance. I urge each and everyone of you to step up and make a presence at our April 12 meeting and elect to participate in our committees. The future of Illiana Artists depends on you.