

The Saskatchewan Wildlife Art Association Inc.

Presents

The Fourth Annual

Saskatchewan River Valley Art School

May 19-24, 2011

At The Shekinah Retreat Centre
On the North Saskatchewan River
Near Waldheim, Saskatchewan

We would love to have you join us for a great time of learning, fun and relaxation at one of the most beautiful locations in Saskatchewan. Courses include bird and animal carving, stone carving, relief carving, oil & watercolour painting and basket weaving. All courses are taught by instructors who are among the best in their respective fields and who want you to get the most from your time at Shekinah.

It all starts with a "welcome burger BBQ" Thursday evening. Classes run throughout the day from Friday through Tuesday. The complete package provides dorm-style accommodations, all meals and class tuition (an additional materials fee is payable directly to your instructor). You can choose to bring your own RV if you wish. Spouses are welcome to enjoy the area and can also take part in evening activities. The Monday evening wind-up banquet is always a highlight of the week.

We expect the classes to fill quickly, so be sure to register early. Registration deadline is May 2.

For full information on meals, accommodations, other activities see the enclosed registration sheet or visit www.saskwildlifeart.com

Register by Mail or Phone (use enclosed form):

Sask. River Valley Art School,
c/o Shekinah Retreat Centre
Box 490 Waldheim, SK
S0K 4R0 CANADA

(306) 945-4929 (9AM-5PM CST Mon-Fri)

Other contact / information:

Shekinah email: office@shekinahretreatcentre.org

Shekinah website: www.shekinahretreatcentre.org

Sask. River Valley Art School: srvas@saskwildlifeart.com

Please note: Phone registration begins at 9AM Jan 31, 2011. We encourage you to mail your registration in advance. In the event that a class is oversubscribed as of 5PM Jan 31, a draw will be held from all registrants in the oversubscribed class(es) to determine who is enrolled. Otherwise all registration will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Oil Painting

with Valerie Hinz



The Course: This is a course about painting what you see in terms of values and colour. Subject matter plays no significance here. Composition will be discussed greatly. You should bring photos of anything: other artists' works that you admire, images of your own works, images of something you might paint. These photos are for benefit of composition discussion.

Materials Fee: \$25 includes consumable supplies like paper towels, thinning medium (oil of spike), brush soap, brush cleaner/paint thinner.

The Instructor: Valerie lives in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and has been a professional artist, working in television since 1979. In 2000, she left her job with the CTV affiliate to paint full time. One of her earlier commercial exhibitions was with the U.S. Arabian National Horse Show in Louisville, KY. There, she took a tour of Churchill Downs, where she viewed an exhibit of the works by the American Academy of Equine Art for the first time. She eagerly submitted work to future AAEA shows, where within two years, she gratefully accepted the 1992 Gordon Barton Memorial Award for Best in Show. Valerie attributes the AAEA for giving her the start she needed in the equine art world. The publicity received from her wins through the AAEA juried exhibitions helped her to become visible to the galleries that represent her today. Her artistic achievements, publications and galleries are too numerous to list here. She is a full member of the American Academy of Equine Artists.

Valerie rarely chooses to do commissions, but accepted to do so for the 1999 Queen's Plate winner for Woodbine Race Track in Toronto, Canada. She was the official artist for 2003 Breeders' Cup at Santa Anita, California. Valerie also received the coveted "Artists Choice" award at the 2009 Calgary Stampede.

Contact: Email: valeriehinz@shaw.ca

Carving a Pronghorn Antelope

with Byron Crabb



The Course: With a top speed of one hundred km/hr the Pronghorn Antelope is the second fastest land animal. At a seemingly effortless pace, they are best known for their endurance, running 11 kilometres in 10 minutes averaging 65km/hr.

You will carve a beautiful sleek Pronghorn male in full stride. Anatomy information will be presented for understanding the muscle, bone and joint structures that are essential to create realistic and artistic animal sculptures. The basswood carving will be stained, or may be painted.

Materials Fee: \$25 includes blank, patterns and stains.

The Instructor: Byron Crabb was born in Radisson Sask., and has enjoyed a lifetime of creativity, sketching and photography. With his enthusiasm for the outdoors, wildlife, and hunting to hone his observation skills, and his past profession as a veterinarian assisting his understanding of anatomy, he tries to capture the character of his animal subjects in artistic expression.

For over twenty years Byron has been carving and sculpting in wood, moose antler, stone, bone and ivory. His artistry has been exhibited in many galleries, has won numerous awards including many Best of Show, and is present in both corporate and private collections throughout Canada and the United States. He has been featured in local and national media. Byron resides in Moose Jaw, Sask.

Contact: Email: bbcrabb@sasktel.net

Phone: 306-692-6667 or 306-630-9097

Web: www.byroncrabb.com

Wash & Line: Watercolour as a Sketching Medium, and Beyond with Elaine L. Muth



The Course: Learn techniques used by naturalists and botanists to observe and record natural forms in the landscape. These techniques of observational note-taking and visual shorthand offer a way to capture the moment and open a door to new and different ways of seeing, for nature lovers of all skill levels.

From the roughest sketches to intricate paintings, watercolour allows you to capture field marks of flora and fauna simply and spontaneously, using a minimum of materials.

Discover how to simplify a scene; how when and why to make habitat sketches in any ecosystem or terrain, and throughout the seasons.

Capturing the illusion of light will be emphasized by using:

- 1) **Line** to express life: broken, continuous, contour, tapered, cross-hatched.
- 2) Brush **washes** to suggest texture, mood and movement - flat, graded, layered, diffuse and defined edges.
- 3) **Colour** applied in terms of tone, temperature and hue. Detailed demonstrations and explanations will be given of all terms and techniques. Subject matter will be exclusively 3-dimensional objects found in nature - no digital or print references. Specimens will be provided for study.

Materials Fee: No materials fee. Students are responsible for bringing their own supplies. Supply list can be viewed at saskwildlifeart.com. A supply list will be provided upon registration.

The Instructor: Using the ever versatile and dependable medium of watercolour, Elaine L. Muth has recorded her experience of the flora, fauna, bio-geography and domestic architecture of many cultures & countries worldwide, including: France, Spain, Turkey, Cyprus, Greece, Morocco, Egypt, Malta, Atlantic & Pacific coasts, New Mexico & the Caribbean. Entranced by the wild birdsong, rolling landscape and vivid light of the Great Plains region where she was born and raised, Muth began a varied artistic practice by the age of 9, which continues today. Early tuition in drawing, calligraphy, science, dance and music became the framework for a 4 decade career as painter, scientific illustrator, graphic and 3D designer and art educator/mentor. These lifelong pursuits continue to inspire her current interests in martial arts, the piano music of Eric Satie, Bach & Chopin, and the production of a large body of travel art. In 2000, while employed as a scientific illustrator at the college of medicine, U of S, Muth received a grant to attend university in Venice, Italy and there studied the work of Leonardo da Vinci and other early anatomists. Muth's professional experience as scientific illustrator spans the disciplines of archeology, plant taxonomy, and health sciences: dentistry, neuro science, gross anatomy and cell biology research. Muth's paintings, drawings and calligraphy have been included in group and solo exhibitions across Canada. She is included in "The Biographical Dictionary of Saskatchewan Artists" and in "ABC Canada: The First Contemporary Collection of Canadian Calligraphy", 1996.

Contact: Phone (306)242-5724

Carving and Painting Dark-eyed Junco

with Bruce Lepper



The Course: This Dark-eyed Junco carving will be a straight forward pose with a slight head turn. It will present a modest challenge, but nothing too difficult to be accomplished in the time allotted. It will be perched on a branch with one leg reaching down and the other leg close to the body in a bracing position. The painting will also be challenging because it will require you to apply paint judiciously to avoid making the bird too dark. As well, the line between the white lower body and the upper body will give the opportunity for some interesting blending between light and dark areas.

Time permitting Bruce will show how to make feet at an evening class so that anyone who can find the time may want to try it themselves.

Materials Fee: \$30.00 includes blank, patterns and eyes.

The Instructor: Bruce Lepper began carving wildfowl in 1986 after a career as an advertising art director and graphic artist. Since he began competing in 1987, he has won numerous ribbons, including many best of shows in Canada and the US. In 1992 he started competing at the Ward World Championship, and in 1999 placed Second in World, Decorative Miniature Wildfowl. In 2003 he won a Best in Masters, Decorative Life-size Wildfowl and second in World, Decorative Miniature Wildfowl. All of this culminated in April 2010 when he won the John Scheeler Memorial Award for First Best in World, Decorative Life-size Wildfowl.

He has enjoyed teaching songbird carving at the Haliburton School of The Arts for the last 7 years, and has shown his work at the Waterfowl Festival in Easton MD for the last 12 years. Bruce taught a very popular "American Redstart" class at Shekinah for the Sask. River Valley Art School extension session in January of 2009. He lives in Millbrook, ON

Contact: Email: brucelepper@nexicom.net

Carving a Pair of Miniature Gannets

with Harvey Welch



The Course: Several years ago I visited the BiO DOME in Montreal and watched the Gannets leave the man-made cliffs and dive deep into the water below to capture the fish they were being fed. This carving attempts to capture the interaction between two gannets on the cliffs where they breed. Their blue eyes set in a black mask, their yellow-gold heads and necks, their white bodies and black primaries create a striking bird to paint. The class will cover all aspects of creating a carving from developing a plan, finding the forms, establishing feather groups, bumping puffs of feathers, texturing, burning for softness and painting. Students will be provided with two blanks, two pair of eyes, and a casting of one bird plus other materials required to complete feet and rocks. Each student will receive a set of notes covering all the steps required to complete the project at home.

Materials Fee: \$40.00

The Instructor: Harvey Welch started carving in 1986 and became a full time carver after retiring from the Saskatoon Board of Education in 1991. Harvey is primarily a wildlife carver with a major focus on all species of birds. He shows his work at carving shows across Western Canada and has earned a number of best in show placements over the years. Harvey believes that carvings should reflect love of the subject and joy in the process. A well-carved piece should serve to remind us all that the preservation of our natural world and the survival of all creatures that share our planet helps ensure our own survival.

Contact: Email: welchjh@shaw.ca
Phone: (306) 374-1184

Carving Soapstone

with Larry Trask



The Course: Participants will carve two pieces during the course. The first, a simple bear, will be carved from a soapstone block and used to explore the effect of different tools and the attributes of soapstone. The second project will allow you to develop a composition from an irregularly shaped stone. There will be enough stone to allow some selection. We will also discuss various stone types, tools, and history. Depending on experience level, there may be time for free choice carving for some participants.

Materials Fee: \$35.00 includes one Brazilian Soapstone block approximately 3"x5"x7" as well as finishing materials. Irregular soapstone pieces for your second project will also be available for purchase at \$1.85/lb.

The Instructor: Full-time stone carving for over ten years has helped Larry develop a distinctive style. Influenced by wood carvers and bronze artists, his compositions project movement, character, and attitude in a blend of realism and impressionism. He is a member of CARFAC and a juried member of the SK Craft Council (SCC). His works have won many awards in art shows and competitions in the prairies and have been included in the prestigious Calgary Stampede Western Art Sales Salon; Saskatchewan's Reflections of Nature, and Ontario's Buckhorn Wildlife Art Show. Larry's work was represented in the SCC's Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show catalogue of SK artists in 2007. He has been a featured artist at the Mendel Art Gallery Giftshop in Saskatoon. Galleries in Winnipeg, Regina, Lumsden, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, and Canmore handle his art. His work is also found in corporate and private collections world wide.

Contact: Email: trask@sasktel.net

Carving Wildlife in Relief

With Chris Goncalves



The Course: Chris will take you through all aspects of Relief Carving using only hand tools (no power tools). Using Basswood boards you will choose from a selection of Wildlife patterns suited to your skill level and personal tastes; participants may not all be working on the same project. The basic techniques of Relief Carving are the same regardless of the design used.

With technical advice and artistic guidance Chris will take you through all the steps involved, from transferring your pattern to wood, depth perception, texturing options, various natural finishing styles and tool sharpening. An important element in this class will be discussion of the use and care of various shapes and sizes of Carving gouges.

There will be much class discussion along the way to produce your Wildlife Relief Carvings with fun and encouragement.

Materials Fee: \$40 includes wood, notes & pattern.

The Instructor: Chris Goncalves has been woodcarving for 28 years and teaching for 22 of those years.

After immigrating to Ontario, Canada from England in the mid 70's, she became very involved with the Ontario Wood Carvers Association serving as a director and organizing shows, seminars and events, also taking many courses with world renowned carvers.

In 1996 she relocated with her family to Kelowna BC where she works in the Art and Picture Framing industry and continues to teach, conduct lectures and workshops, and carve as much as possible.

Chris is skilled in many aspects of carving and specializes in Relief, In-the-round and Chip carving as well as Scroll saw art and some stone carving. She has won awards and ribbons at many shows over the years.

Chris really enjoys teaching and encourages her students to have fun and strive to reach the best of their abilities.

Contact: Email: chris.g1@telus.net

Texture and Paint a Redpoll with Lana Cowell



The Course: Will focus primarily on the different textures and techniques that Lana uses to give the Redpoll its distinctive appeal. The Redpoll's eye catching red poll, along with its beautiful reddish tinged breast makes it one of winter's favourite guests. This class is for the carver who is comfortable finding the general shape of the bird, proficient with eye placement and knowledgeable regarding feather groups. Upon registration you will be sent a blank, eyes, a pattern and instructions. Prior to the class you will be expected to carve your project to the point where the general feather groups are defined, eyes are set, and the piece is ready to texture in class.

We will cover different approaches to texturing various feather groups or styles of feathers, how feathers lay on each other, and how they relate to one another. You will be sent a studycast of the project; you can use this as a guide to help you when you are doing your homework. In class you will be painting on this casting. The paint portion of this class will explore colour, mixing paint, and layering washes. You will be painting with brushes and acrylic paint.

Materials Fee: \$45.00 includes blank, eyes, note, pattern, studycast and shipping on initial blank package.

The Instructor: Lana Cowell was born and raised on a farm in North Central Saskatchewan. She has been involved in the art world her entire adult life and is the owner of The Delmar Gallery in Saskatoon. About six years ago a serendipitous invitation brought her to Reflections of Nature Wildlife Art Show. This was the first time she had ever seen bird carving. Her companion expressed a desire to take up the hobby, and initially, Lana thought bird carving would be a fun winter activity, so she told her friend that she would take a class with her. "I see the world in a different way today than when I was not carving. That feels as if it is the gift that was given me. Even the smallest little bird exhibits a beauty of its own narrative as it goes about its day to day living. As an artist, bird carving is for me one of the most challenging, exhilarating and humbling things I have ever attempted." What began as a supportive role to a friend soon eclipsed into something far beyond her expectations. What began as a therapeutic hobby became a passion. Her work was almost immediately recognized for its own distinctive style, detail and exceptional paint. Lana has been awarded Best of Show awards in competitions in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and ribbons at the Ward World Championships in Ocean City, MD, USA. Lana continues to create and carve as her life allows her to. She attributes part of her success to the carving community in Saskatoon. "I am very fortunate to be a part of this community. They set a high standard of what is good work and they set an even higher standard of generosity and goodwill."

Contact: Email: delmargallery2@sasktel.net

Basket Weaving 101

with Beth Crabb



The Course: This course is designed for you to learn and create, while allowing time to explore Shekinah's grounds and soak in the peace of this beautiful setting.

Two one and a half day basket weaving classes will happen over the first four days of the school. Using various widths of reed, you will learn basket weaving techniques to create and finish two baskets. You will choose from a variety of natural and hand-dyed reeds to incorporate your own colour choices during the weaving.

Project one - (May 20 8AM-5PM; May 21 8AM-Noon)

Cathead Basket

Learn a Japanese twill weave to create a diagonal pattern in this swing-handled basket.

Project two - (May 22 8AM-5PM; May 23 8AM-Noon)

Oval Ribbed Basket

Using rib construction and one hoop, students may use sea-grass and yarn for texture, as well as dyed reed. If there is time, students may weave a small wall basket.

Materials Fee: \$20.00 per basket for all necessary materials.

The Instructor: Beth started weaving in 1991 at Crete Nebraska, and learned willow weaving in Sask. She is largely self-taught, and enjoys creating her own designs. Her work in watercolour and clay influence the development of her weavings.

Beth has been teaching basketry workshops for ten years in Moose Jaw, as well as at SRVAS in 2009 and 2010, and Sorrento in September 2010. Her baskets have been exhibited in Moose Jaw at Yvette Moore's Gallery, Creative Photographics, the Museum and Art Gallery, and Lumsden's Letterbox Gallery. In 2007 she was selected as one of three artists to represent Moose Jaw in Ottawa on July 1, to celebrate Moose Jaw as one of the Cultural Capitals of Canada.

Beth's classes are focused on fun, learning, and exploring your colour and textural choices, while developing your skills as a basket weaver.

Contact: Email: bbcrabb@sasktel.net

Phone: 306-692-6667 or 306-631-6863

Information on Shekinah and how to get there

Shekinah. *shu-kee'-nuh* n. Hebrew. in the presence and glory of God.

The Shekinah Retreat Centre is operated by the Mennonite Church of Saskatchewan. It is located overlooking the beautiful North Saskatchewan River.



www.shekinahretreatcentre.org

The Shekinah Retreat Centre is located 50 minutes north of Saskatoon. Travel straight north on Highway 12 from Saskatoon, turning right at the Shekinah road sign just north of the town of Hepburn. Follow this grid road to a "T" intersection (correction line). Turn left and right again at the next available turn (about 1/4 kilometre). Continue north until you reach Shekinah. "Art School" signs will mark the way from Highway 12 as well.

