

Art Matters

Fall into the art of the outdoors



By Janet Sellers

October is officially Arts Month in the Pikes Peak region. Our Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region (COPPR) champions this annual celebration to highlight the visibility and the value of the arts for all of us, and it's closely connected to October as National Arts and Humanities Month. I hope we can all get out and enjoy Arts Month this year—make some, purchase some, enjoy some local art. Besides great memories, local art is an heirloom treasure that lasts generations.

Let's take in the local art and artist scene with gusto as it's our last chance this month to grab some outdoor art fun and not have to wear ski clothes to stay warm or watch our watercolors freeze before our eyes. On the plus side, there will be fewer bugs in the outdoors as it gets colder. Yes, some of us still paint outdoors in cold weather, even snow.

My fellow plein air painters around the state and here in town have enjoyed many warm months of this special outdoor style of dynamic painting called plein air painting. There is nothing else in the art world with such a fresh, dynamic feel to the realistic, peinture sur le motif "paint-

ing what the eye actually sees" as in these works, vs. the pre-planned studio style of a pre-determined look.

It wasn't until the invention of the paint tube in the 1840s that working outdoors became quite popular. This painting tradition requires works to be started and finished outdoors (studio finishes are frowned upon). The immediacy of the paint strokes must be handled well, and quickly—artists must pack up on the fly when chased by a storm!

Be a plein air art lover—our fall colors will peak early this year, so let's get out and enjoy colors!



October art indoors:

Bella Art and Frame Gallery's Oct. 1-31 group art exhibit is titled, "Miniature Fine Art Show" featuring art in miniature; opening reception Oct. 9, 6-9 p.m., 183 Washington St., Monument.

Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TCLA) exhibit "From the Earth" continues through October. It is an exhibit of fine art in wood, with some amazing and rare woods, in a variety of functional and fine art forms.

TCLA Call for Artists: a current member and resident artist call. Artists may sign up now as member artists to be in this show. Artists may submit up to five works for free, and accepted artists may submit bin art. Oct. 16 is the deadline for entries. TCLA, 304 Highway 105, Palmer Lake.

Janet Sellers is a local artist, art teacher, and Mini-cine/online video maker. Her art and sculptures are on exhibit locally and all over Colorado. Sellers can be reached at janetsellers@ocn.me

Snapshots of Our Community

Historical Society hosts Estemere Tour

by Jackie Burhans

The Palmer Lake Historical Society (PLHS) hosted a tour of Estemere on Saturday, Sept. 12 in Palmer Lake. Estemere is a fully restored Victorian mansion built in the 1880s. Owners Kim and Ralph Ward opened their home for the first time in five years for this PLHS fundraiser. Over 650 people attended the event and enjoyed a self-guided tour with docents and volunteers from the D-38 key club and Lewis-Palmer High School social studies National Honor Society Rho Kappa in Victorian period clothing. Additional information on Estemere and PLHS can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/ofj19wh>.



Above: Richard Cooper, a Palmer Lake Historical Society member, who volunteered to be a docent for the Estemere tour. *Photo by Al Walter.*



Above: Sherry Enterline of The Legendary Ladies group from Denver greeted attendees at the entrance of the tour. *Photo courtesy of Jackie Burhans*

Author presents lecture on mining trails

by David Futey

On Sept. 10, author Lee Whiteley gave a presentation on the Cherokee and Smoky Hill Trails used by prospectors and others to reach the Pikes Peak area gold fields and beyond at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry. The Cherokee Trail was a route from the Sante Fe Trail in the Arkansas Valley and Old Bent's Fort through Denver and onto Fort Bridger, Wyo. In the present-day Colorado Springs area, the trail from Pueblo came through Fountain, then eventually trended along Meridian Road in the Black Forest and onto Russellville. Remnants of the trail are visible at certain locations.



Above: Guest lecturer Lee Whiteley (third from left) is joined by museum volunteers Ken Aron, Betty Chastain, Bill Kathmann, Executive Director Richard Sauers, and museum board member Jeff Tapparo at the opening of the Buck O'Donnell art exhibit. Whiteley talked about the Smoky Hill and Cherokee trails taken by prospectors to reach the Pikes Peak area gold fields in the 1850-60s. *Photo by David Futey.*

The Tri-Lakes Emergency Preparedness Fair, Sep. 12

by Jackie Burhans

The Tri-Lakes Emergency Preparedness Fair was held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Monument on Saturday Sept. 12. Community members hosted demonstration booths on ham radio operation and education, first aid, fire/police department, emergency sanitation, water safety, safe food storage, and more with samples of foods prepared from food storage rations. Recipes can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/p2orpkm>.



Right: Organizers Vicki Kay, left, and Holly Heath. *Photo by Jackie Burhans*

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