

THE ARTS & CRAFTS MESSENGER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
COLORADO ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

www.coloarts-crafts.org

VOLUME 13, No. 2

SPRING 2011

The Colorado Arts and Crafts Society Presents

A GATHERING OF THE



SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2011

THE BOETTCHER MANSION

ON LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, GOLDEN, COLORADO

10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

JOIN US FOR A GATHERING OF THE GUILDS

THE COLORADO ARTS AND CRAFTS SOCIETY ARTISANS' GUILD FORUM

A PRESENTATION OF THE BEST IN COLORADO FINE CRAFTSMANSHIP

Have you ever wondered how paper is made, printed and bound into a book, or how copper is hammered into a work of art?

The "Gathering of the Guilds" is a special time for the Colorado Arts and Crafts Society to bring local artisans together under one roof to celebrate all kinds of work that is being created by hand and heart. This year we will have the following organizations participating:

- Castle Clay Artists
- Colorado Calligraphers' Guild
- Colorado Metalsmithing Association
- Colorado Woodworkers Guild
- Denver Botanic Gardens
Illustration Program
- Dry Creek Art Press
- Friends of Dard Hunter
- Hand Weavers' Guild of Boulder
- Mystic Star Alpacas
- Red Rocks School of Fine Woodworking
- Rocky Mountain Chapter, Guild of Book
Workers
- Rocky Mountain Weavers' Guild
- The Book Arts League
- The Bungalow Craft

Bring your entire family up to the Boettcher Mansion on Sunday, May 1st to experience craftsmanship in its most authentic form. Whether you choose to "learn the trade" from a favorite artisan -- or just listen and observe from afar -- you will have a chance to meet and learn from a variety of talented folks. It's never too late to learn a new skill -- and you might just discover your true calling in the form of a new hobby or different career path.

A variety of information, presentations, demonstrations and workshops will be offered throughout the day, and many handcrafted items will be available for sale (remember, Mother's Day is exactly one week after this event, so be sure to shop the wares)!

The general admission fee is \$5 (CACS and participating guild members can participate free of charge). Please note that there may be additional fees for individual workshops. A full schedule will be posted on our website (www.coloarts-crafts.org) by mid-April.



MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PARTICIPATING GUILDS & ORGANIZATIONS

Handweavers Guild of Boulder

www.handweaversofboulder.org

The objectives of the Hand Weavers' Guild of Boulder shall be to explore the lore and techniques of hand-weaving and related textile arts and crafts and to stimulate interest in these media. This guild meets every second Monday (day guild) and Tuesday (evening guild) of the month, from September through May in Boulder, CO.

Denver Botanic Gardens Illustration Program

www.botanicgardens.org

In the Botanical Art and Illustration Certificate Program, you will learn the skills to render plants in remarkable scientific detail and the artistic techniques needed to create beautiful and lasting plant portraits.

With over 80 classes and workshops offered each year, we'll help you to combine scientific accuracy with an aesthetic vision to create beautiful botanicals. Sample the program with an introductory course or jump right into the certificate program. Whether you have painted for years or did your last great work in grade school, our instructors will meet you where you are to begin your botanical art journey.

The Arts & Crafts Messenger, the newsletter of the Colorado Arts & Crafts Society, is published quarterly for the society's members as part of their membership contribution. Send comments to Julie Leidel 784 Joseph Circle, Golden, CO or e-mail to julie.leidel@gmail.com All articles are © 2011 the Colorado Arts & Crafts Society, with rights reverting to the authors after publication.

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All correspondence concerning the society or membership should be sent to Colorado Arts & Crafts Society, 900 Colorow Road, Golden, CO 80401 www.colorarts-crafts.org

Colorado Metalsmithing Association

coloradometalsmiths.org

The Colorado Metalsmithing Association was founded in 1994 and emerged as a fine arts organization. In 1995 CoMA became a 501(C3) non-profit corporation. Our goal is to involve our members in an exchange of creative and technical knowledge about the art of metalsmithing. Our members are artists who live and work throughout the United States and Canada. We are composed of jewelers, sculptors, blacksmiths and other professionals interested in supporting the arts. CoMA sponsors hands-on workshops several times a year as well as a three-day conference in Salida, Colorado during the month of July. We welcome all who have a love and appreciation for metal art in all its forms.

Colorado Woodworkers Guild

www.coloradowoodworkersguild.com

The Colorado Woodworkers Guild was founded in 1980 for the purpose of promoting high quality craftsmanship and artistic expression in all facets of woodworking. The Guild achieves this purpose by providing a forum for sharing experiences and learning new techniques. The Guild facilitates the sharing of information, education in the craft of woodworking at all levels and is open to anyone from beginner to professional.

Castle Clay Artists

www.castleclayartists.net

Castle Clay Artists Inc. and Denver Potters Association is a Denver, Colorado cooperative ceramics studio, providing facilities for a diverse group of clay artists. Creations include functional, decorative, and sculptural hand-built and wheel-thrown objects and vessels, made from stoneware, porcelain, earthenware and raku clays.

Colorado Calligraphers' Guild

www.coloradocalligraphers.com

The Colorado Calligraphers' Guild was formed to promote the study, practice and appreciation of calligraphy in all its historical and present day applications, to encourage individual excellence and foster a deeper understanding of calligraphy. A non-profit organization, the Guild elects officers and holds regular meetings to conduct its business.

Rocky Mountain Weavers' Guild

www.rmweaversguild.com

The Rocky Mountain Weavers' Guild is incorporated as a non-profit enterprise and is dedicated to the purposes of meeting and exchanging ideas, helping and encouraging all weavers to achieve the highest standard of excellence, conducting workshops and programs for instructing its members, and stimulating public interest and appreciation for the art and craft of hand weaving. This guild meets every third Saturday of the month from September through May in Denver, CO.

The Book Arts League

www.bookartsleague.org

The Book Arts League exists to further the traditional and contemporary arts and crafts of printing, calligraphy, bookbinding, graphic design, typography and papermaking -- the cornerstones of the literacy and communications technology on which modern society depend. The League serves as a community resource for the book arts, particularly the 500-year-old craft of letterpress printing.

Friends of Dard Hunter

www.friendsofdardhunter.org

The Friends of Dard Hunter is an organization for hand papermakers and anyone with a passion for paper. Since 1981 we have been connecting and educating papermakers in America and all over the world. Our name honors the life and work of Dard Hunter (1881-1966), whose travels, research, and writing are the most extensive of anyone in the field of hand papermaking; we support the Dard Hunter collection of the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum. We hold an annual conference in different regions of the United States, and we sponsor exhibitions of the art and science of papermaking here and abroad.

The Bungalow Craft

www.thebungalowcraft.com

The Bungalow Craft is owned by Julie Leidel. She is a local artist who has been focusing her artwork on the Arts & Crafts movement. She paints in acrylic, gouache, and oil and produces artwork that will meld perfectly with any craftsman home.

Dry Creek Art Press

www.dcartpress.com

Leon Loughridge publishes his reduction woodblocks and editioned books through his publishing company Dry Creek Art Press. Leon treats the prints he hand-cuts as woodblock paintings. The printing process is very organic and intuitive, with the image evolving through the process. Leon's work focuses on the Southwestern landscape and our personal interaction with its visual beauty. *(For more information, see page 6.)*

Mystic Star Alpacas

www.mysticstaralpacas.com

Mystic Star Alpacas, located in Arvada, brings you a variety of the luxurious alpaca fiber products. We offer 100% alpaca products as well as wonderful blends. We have colorful capes and scarves as well as neutral-colored, 100% alpaca wraps produced from our own animals. Come visit the ranch to meet the alpacas.

Rocky Mountain Chapter, Guild of Book Workers

www.guildofbookworkers.org

The Guild of Book Workers promotes interest in and awareness of the tradition of the book and paper arts by maintaining high standards of workmanship, hosting educational opportunities, and sponsoring exhibits.

Initiatives

in art and culture

At Frontier's Edge: The Arts & Crafts Movement in Denver and Environs

The 13th Annual Arts & Crafts Conference

**Denver, Colorado
September 21-25, 2011**

Join us for lectures by leading authorities, private site tours and receptions, museum visits, and more.

Hosted by the Boettcher Mansion, Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, Denver Art Museum, the Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art, jeweler Todd Reed, and Van Briggle Memorial Pottery, with the participation of the Colorado Arts and Crafts Society (as of 3/22/2011).



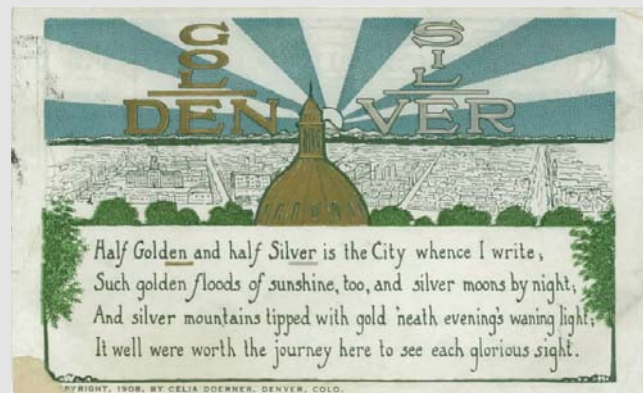
Van Briggle Pottery Lamp, 1903, by Anne Van Briggle (1868 - 1929); shade probably by R. Ito, early 1904. Promised gift to Kirkland Museum of Pam McClary and Robert Rust. Photo by David Foxhoven.

**Early registration discount available through July 5, 2011.
Student rate and single-day registrations available.**

Register at: www.acteva.com/go/denver

**For more information, contact:
Initiatives in Art and Culture:
info@artinitiatives.com**

Tel. 646-485-1952; Fax. 212-935-6911



Vintage postcard, copyright, 1908, by Celia Doerner, Denver, CO.

A REVIEW OF THE 24TH

GROVE PARK INN

ARTS AND CRAFTS CONFERENCE

BY JULIE LEIDEL

As my husband and I drove towards The Grove Park Inn in Asheville, NC, I was growing more and more excited. I'd seen pictures of this beautiful Arts and Crafts hotel, but seeing it in person was something straight out of a storybook. The intimate setting of the hotel with its enchanting rolling red clay tile roof and the huge granite boulders takes you back in time to 1913 when the hotel was first built. This impressive resort, with its ever-growing list of famous guests, was now to be my home for the next three days.

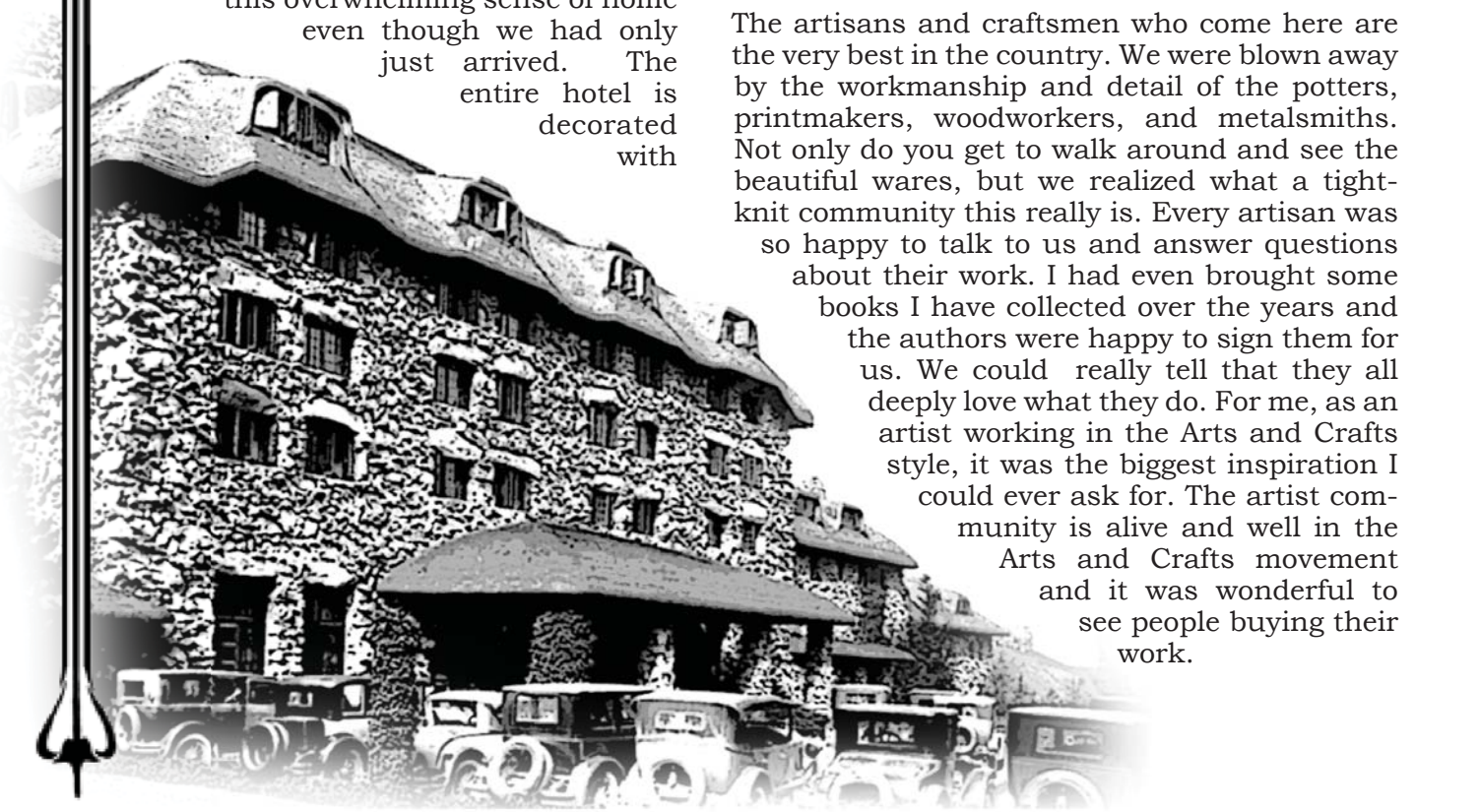
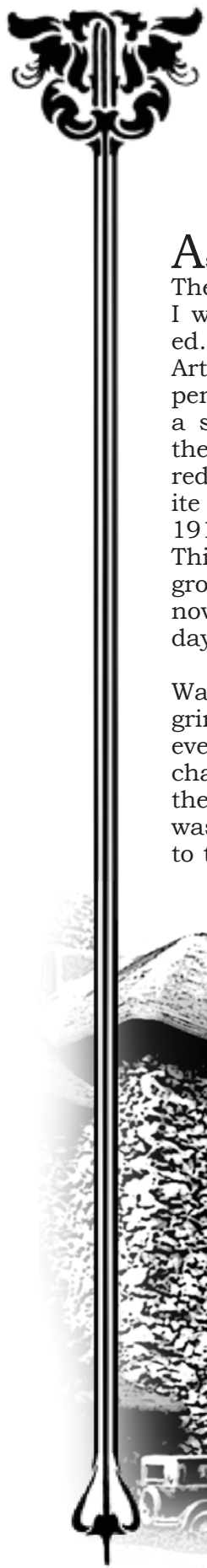
Walking into the Great Hall, I had a grin from ear to ear as I tried to take in every detail from the massive Roycroft chandeliers to the mottoes carved into the massive fireplaces. The lighting was warm and inviting as we listened to the music of the dulcimer. We had

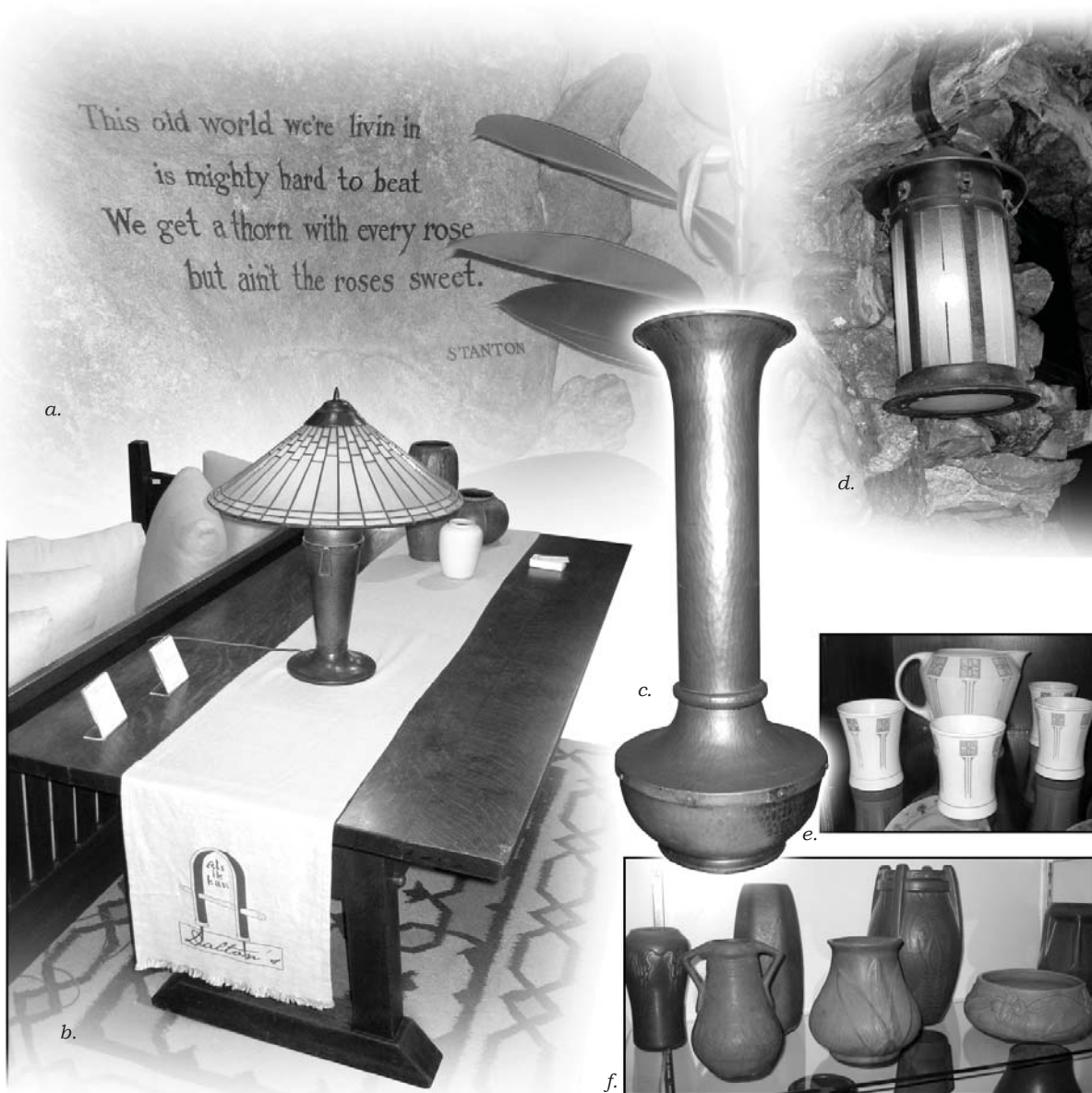
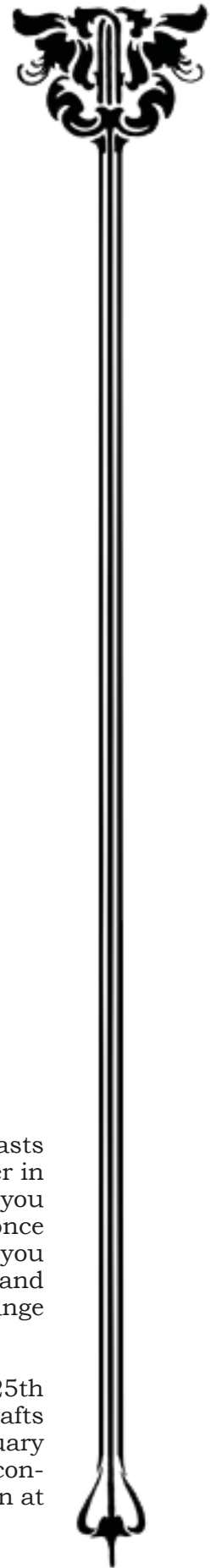
this overwhelming sense of home even though we had only just arrived. The entire hotel is decorated with

more Arts and Crafts pottery and furniture than you can possibly look at, and we constantly discovered new things all weekend long.

The national Grove Park Inn Arts & Crafts Conference has been meeting annually since 1986. You can see the 24 years of love and experience that Bruce Johnson has poured into the show. It was very well organized and the event was a joy to be a part of. There were three concurrent shows: The Antiques Show, Contemporary Craftsirms Show, and the Books and More Show. My husband, Brian, and I played a little game to see who could uncover the most expensive antique as we perused the dealer booths. Handsome Newcomb vases for \$6,500, beautiful mica lamps for \$40,000, antique Stickley furniture for \$55,000 -- but Brian won the prize when he spotted a pair of bronze Art Nouveau candelabras for \$125,000. Gulp. Once we realized that we personally couldn't afford anything in the Antiques Show, we headed to the Contemporary Craftsirms Show.

The artisans and craftsmen who come here are the very best in the country. We were blown away by the workmanship and detail of the potters, printmakers, woodworkers, and metalsmiths. Not only do you get to walk around and see the beautiful wares, but we realized what a tight-knit community this really is. Every artisan was so happy to talk to us and answer questions about their work. I had even brought some books I have collected over the years and the authors were happy to sign them for us. We could really tell that they all deeply love what they do. For me, as an artist working in the Arts and Crafts style, it was the biggest inspiration I could ever ask for. The artist community is alive and well in the Arts and Crafts movement and it was wonderful to see people buying their work.





a) Quote on one of the huge fireplaces in the great hall. b) Antique Stickley Director's Table with stained glass lamp. c) Roycroft American Beauty Vase. d) Original Roycroft lantern and granite stonework on the front of Grove Park Inn. e) Antique porcelain pitcher and glasses. f) Various antique art pottery circa 1905.

The weekend was full of great seminars, workshops, small group discussions, walking tours, a silent auction and even book clubs. The nice part is that you can do as little or as much as you want while attending the conference. We were energized from the moment we walked in right up to the time we had to leave. Next time, we may even add an extra day or two onto our trip so that we can enjoy the 43,000 sq. ft. spa at the resort. If you do find yourself in Asheville, NC, don't miss The Southern. It's a little kitchen and bar in downtown Asheville. The food was utterly amazing and I've been dreaming of going back ever since.

There's something special in the air when more

than 3,000 Arts and Craft enthusiasts from all over the nation come together in one place. I highly encourage each of you to attend this conference at least once in your life. Not only will it instill in you a deeper understanding of the Arts and Crafts movement, but it will also change the way you admire and collect.

For more information about the 25th national Grove Park Inn Arts and Crafts Conference scheduled for February 17-19, 2012, visit www.arts-craftsconference.com or contact Bruce Johnson at 828-628-1915. ☺



THE ART OF THE PRINT IN REVIEW

BY BETH BRADFORD



Our winter symposium, held in January, proved to be a great success and the large group in attendance was treated to an entertaining and educational evening. In addition to the informative presentations and demonstrations of the technical aspects of creating reduction block prints, both Laura Wilder and Leon Loughridge provided some insight into their artistic processes.

Laura's work was seen recently by most Arts and Crafts enthusiasts with the inclusion of a series of prints in last year's publications of *American Bungalow*. She is known nationally and her artwork has been commissioned by museums and galleries including the Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms. Laura is one of the Roycroft Renaissance Artists of the Master Artisan level and her work is inspired by the artists of the early twentieth century. In turn, she wants her work to inspire the viewer to connect with the natural world and with each other. Currently, she sees her work as going in two directions: brighter colored, bold, decorative art and more lyrical, soft, spiritual fine art.

Laura began the evening with a presentation of images of some of her work and an explanation of the process of creating a reduction block print. Block printmaking is achieved by developing a sketch, transferring that sketch to a block or series of blocks, and removing the "non-print" areas from the block in succession with color applied to the block for each printing. As the block is reduced following each color run, there is no ability to reprint the previous colors. Starting an edition with 100 prints of the first color will not lead to a final edition of 100 prints once all the misaligned or smudged prints are taken into account.

Following her presentation, she demonstrated the process of mixing and applying the ink and imprinting the paper using a linoleum block. She mixed the colors on a piece of glass and applied it to the block with a hand roller. Then she used the back of a wooden spoon to burnish the paper into the ink in order to achieve a dense color print. She demonstrated how aligning the subsequent color runs is a primary concern in producing the desired result.

For more information on her work, her process and

images of her prints and paintings, visit her website at www.laurawilder.com. Of special interest, see the entries in her March 8th blog that currently detail the making of *Winter Woods I & II* with images and comments regarding the development of the work.

We are lucky to have the second artist, Leon Loughridge, as one of our local artists. Leon's award-winning work is exhibited nationally, collected by numerous museums and carried by many galleries in Colorado, New Mexico and Kansas. There are currently five of his works on display at the Denver Art Museum and an exhibit of his paintings entitled "35 Years of Painting Denver" is scheduled to open on April 10 at the Wynkoop Brewery Dining Area. His work includes watercolor painting and pastels in addition to the woodblock reduction prints that were the feature of the symposium presentation. His working studio and publishing company, Dry Creek Art Press, is located at 2377 S. Downing Street. The studio has three antique letterpresses used to create woodblock prints and books. Studio visitors are welcome with advance notice.

Each of the symposium attendees received a book demonstrating the specific reduction woodblock process for Leon's work entitled *La Puerta*. Leon's work is most often inspired by the Southwestern landscape and that influence is present in this work. Most of his prints have their start with field sketches and plein air watercolor painting. This particular work started with a watercolor sketch. The original sketch was next duplicated on tracing paper. The tracing paper was flipped to the reverse side in order to transfer the image onto the wood blocks using carbon paper. The wood surface was then sealed with shellac. He used three separate blocks to create this image: the Key Block, Color Block and Accent Block. The first cut block became the Key Block and was used to align the subsequent blocks. The first color run was printed and allowed to dry for twenty-four hours. The second cut was made on the Key Block and after proofing, the second color run was printed over the first. This was followed by a third cut and a third color run. The tracing paper drawing was transferred to a new block: the Color Block and the process of cutting and printing was repeated twice using this block for the fourth and fifth color run. The process continued with the third block: the Accent Block. This block had most of the surface removed and was used to print the accent colors in the sixth, seventh and eighth color runs.

A copy of this demonstration and two others, along with much more information, including images of other finished prints, watercolors and pastels are available to view on the Dry Creek Art Press website at www.dcartpress.com. Be sure to check out the progress prints of a new work: "Loveland Pass Lake Road" scheduled to show on July 8. 🍷

MATSUSHIMA BAY
BLOCK PRINT
BY YOSHIKO YAMAMOTO

FUNDRAISER FOR THE
JAPAN RELIEF EFFORT



Matsushima Bay

Y. Yamamoto

The bay, before the earthquake, well-known for its beauty, was one of the three great views of Japan, the “Nihon Sankei” noted in 1643 by the scholar Hayashi Razan. One of the famous haiku attributed to Basho goes:

MATSUSHIMA, AH!
A-AH, MATSUSHIMA, AH,
MATSUSHIMA, AH.

The simplicity of the haiku signified that Matsushima was so beautiful, Basho could say nothing more about it.

ALL the proceeds from this Matsushima print (\$30) will go towards a volunteer organization called Impact Northwest www.impactnorthwest.org

Print size: 7-1/2” x 10-1/2”. It comes in a soft paper wrapper (not matted). Edition number is 500 and is signed by Yoshiko Yamamoto. <http://www.artsandcraftspress.com/BigPicture.asp?catalogid=354>

Classified Ads

Advertise your wares! Members get FREE classified ads!

Free in every issue of the Arts and Crafts Messenger. E-mail julie.leidel@gmail.com to learn more.

When was the last time you paid your CACS dues?

If you can't remember when you wrote a check to CACS for your membership, you probably haven't paid in a while. Please stay with us by sending in your annual dues to CACS, c/o Boettcher Mansion, 900 Colorow Road, Golden, CO 80401. Thank you for your support!

Meet our new board Members

Richard D. Roark

After growing up in Atchison, KS, I attended Harvard, graduating in 1960. I spent three years as a Marine Corps officer followed by medical school and specialty training in Family Practice. After practicing 38 years mostly in Fort. Collins and Denver, I retired from full time Family Medicine and Addiction Medicine.

The arts have always interested me, and I continue to sing in the Cherry Creek Chorale. Fine craftsmanship also fascinates me. I began weaving three years ago and enjoy this form of creativity.

Julie Leidel

I graduated from Colorado State University in 1997 with a BFA in graphic design. I've been working in the e-learning and training industry for 10 years. I'm also an artist and I've been focusing my artwork primarily on the Art & Crafts movement now for about six years (visit my website at www.thebungalowcraft.com). My artwork is about color, line, and shape. I strive to creatively translate the nature, architecture, and beauty around me into artwork for the Craftsman home.

My husband and I recently bought a new construction craftsman home in Golden and we enjoy camping and hiking with our daughter, Abby.

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WHY SHOULD YOU HAVE ALL THE FUN?

GIVE A FRIEND THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE COLORADO ARTS AND CRAFTS SOCIETY

Make a special gift of the growing enthusiasm, activism and educational opportunities offered by the Colorado Arts and Crafts Society. Our members are always the first to learn about our special events, such as our annual Winter Symposium and Spring Show & Sale, plus intermittent neighborhood walking tours and field trips to significant Arts and Crafts sites. Plus, as a member they'll receive discounted or free admission to all CACS events, and our quarterly newsletter. Give a gift today!

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send it along to your friend:

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\$50 Organization or Business membership

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