

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS LIBRARY - ARCHIVES



Vol. 3 • No. 5 • January, 1961

From the President's Desk:

This month we begin our membership drive for 1961. Each year our numbers have increased—but this year we hope to be *really* reflective of the soaring sixties. You will enjoy your affiliation with the Alumni Association and the College. Renew your membership today!

JOHN WILLIAM BROWN

Grand Annual Giving Response

We are happy to report that during the first four days of our Annual Giving Campaign, \$387.15 was received from 31 alumni. Some have given \$3.65, others have moved the decimal point over one place and given \$36.50, still others have made contributions of \$50 and \$100 . . . a heartening response!

REMINDER: "Conversations With Artists"

DON'T MISS THEM! Monday Evenings 8 to 10 P.M.

Feb. 6 ART FOR INDUSTRY

Feb. 20 ARTISTS-CRAFTSMEN

Mar. 6 ARTISTS AS TEACHERS

Mar. 20 WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

DON'T FORGET ALUMNI LUNCHEONS
EVERY THURSDAY 12 NOON TO 1:30 P.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM, PMCA \$1.25

Special Note: No luncheons January 19, 26

Annual Alumni Exhibition

The Annual Alumni Exhibition for this year will be divided into two parts. Part I will consist of 11 one-man shows of the works of graduates of the last 10 years representing the 11 departments of the college. The choice of work to be exhibited will be handled by the 11 Department Heads and the Alumni Association. Part I of the exhibition is scheduled to open on *Friday, February 17*.

Part II of the alumni exhibition, scheduled to open at the Alumni Dinner-Dance on *April 8*, will include a representative selection of the work of alumni chosen by the Department Directors in collaboration with committees of alumni.

Profiles of Alumni: Profile #8

HIDDEN TREASURE

Deeply ensconced in the consciousness and heart of PMCA Alumni lies a wonderful "treasure". It projects a power in our artists' world and is a valuable contribution to the sum total of human growth and culture. No frame or mat has ever set it off—no professional recognition or prize has ever come its way. Each year, because of it, some young student will join our ranks, someone will be interested in our work. In the final analysis, this particular treasure of ours may well be one of PMCA's finest achievements.

It is to our GIRLS we are indebted for this richness. *They* are this treasure. Those girls who think we are no longer interested because they are not out in competition exhibiting and winning prizes. Those girls who married after graduation and have devoted themselves wholeheartedly to raising a family and creating a home that is blessed with an awareness of beauty and taste.

Of all this we have many wonderful examples. There are girls with large families, small families who assist artist-husbands in their work—girls who surround their families and direct their activities with a special insight and understanding because of their own artistic training and experience, girls who believe so thoroughly in a way of life fostered by artistic leanings—that they preach this idea to friends and neighbors. And so the word is spread. A need is created and everyone is richer.

Some brief quotations from recent communications are revealing:

"Have applied and used all my art education constantly in my home"—mother of 6. "Sorry, I have

no late works of art to contribute . . . am busy creating another type"—mother of 3. "Thank you for my wonderful training, not just for an artist's world, but for life itself. My background has helped all of us"—mother of 3. "No time at this stage in my young family's development, but for what relaxation I can have, doing a water color is the answer"—mother of 4. Then there was the mother of 10 who, when asked if anything exciting had happened to her since graduation, said, "Haven't done much of anything." Poor, misguided dear, she was thinking about things with frames around them.

Although it is difficult to pinpoint a definite case, here is one worth noting:

Dot Mallon Belcher '34—Major, Costume Design Prize Winner; Wife of Ralph Belcher '34, Art Director, Curtis Circulation Co.; Mother of 5.

Slim, lovely and spirited as ever, Dot turned up two years ago to help the Alumni Association organize a 25-year reunion for her class at our annual banquet and a very good job she did. After graduation she did free-lance fashion sketches and pattern work, designed coats and suits, and had a trip to London and Paris for the purpose of attending couturier openings. Then marriage and her *busy* years began. No time for art work now, but the thought that, "Someday I will have the chance to get back to the wonderful magic that envelops one when doing a water color. . . ." Dot feels strongly that capabilities developed by her art training have colored her everyday existence in every way and have been ever present in the direction of the household. "The formal training in art for me would, if left out, be a prerequisite for a very drab existence. My four years crystallized all my artistic feelings in general, started by my mother, so that now I feel 'at home' in art galleries or in any society. I would not exchange it for anything."

Over a period of many years I have had conversations and letters from girls who felt frustrated or defeated because their training, so they thought, was wasted. Dot Mallon Belcher has given them a beautiful answer; this way of life that these competent, able and creative girls are giving their families and sharing with friends is wealth indeed. No strongbox can hold it. Fortunate is the child whose mother did her pre-family training in art school, and happy and proud is PMCA to have this treasure. Our GIRLS, bless 'em!

S. GERTRUDE SCHELL

News About Alumni

Myra (née Boyle) Narbonne '29 was represented in the December issue of the *Instructor*, a monthly magazine for grade teachers. Under the heading "What a wonderful place!" she discusses the painting "The Toy Shop" by Robert Sivard which is reproduced as the art subject in the *Instructor*. *Mrs. Narbonne* is a Supervisor in the Division of Art Education and lives in Bryn Mawr.

EXHIBITIONS: *Chuck De Vivi '60*, paintings, prints and drawings at the Philadelphia galleries through Jan. 29; *Harry and Jane Bonelli '50*, paintings at the Women's University Club Jan. 9 to Feb. 4; *Mildred Dillon '28*, paintings at the Red Door Gallery, Jan. 10 to Feb. 12.

William J. Wendt '59 has become a novice at St. Joseph's Abbey, Spencer, Mass. After preliminary study he will become a member of a Trappist brotherhood, and has taken the name "Brother Brian".

Exhibitors this winter were: *Augusta Feld '54*, Woodmere Art Gallery, 1960 Prize Winner; at James E. Mack & Sons in November; *Robert R. Jackson '56* and *Alan J. Klawans '54* presented an exhibition of drawings, prints, sculpture and collages at the Universalist Church, also during November.

Recent Marriages:

Louise Cianfrolo '59 to Peter McCahill on November 26, 1960.

Iris Williams '58 to Calvin L. Massey on December 10, 1960.

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