



THE WESTERN ASSOCIATES

WESTERN HERITAGE PRESERVED IN FINE ART

Volume I/Issue I

Spring 2014

The Western Associates Inaugural Show and Sale



Well Folks, I for one did not think it would ever get here but it did and I'm very glad I can say that it went off without a hitch. I do wish our sales had been greater, but a new Western Art Show in a new location and to have some sales is a good thing. We had some sales on opening night and more since the show went up. We had a lovely reception and a wonderful turnout. There were over 150 folks at the reception. Roy Sanders and Don Ling provide acoustic and steel guitar in classic cowboy fashion for our entertainment.

I want to thank our hosts: Karen Vernon and Ken Muenzenmayer. These two great folks are the real deal, and really work for the artists they represent. Both are accomplished artists in their own right and understand the business better than most. They did a great job and those artists that got to attend the show I hope you got to meet and visit with them.

I want to thank all of our members that submitted work for the show. We had over 80 pieces submitted by 31 artists from over 15 states. Our juror and the judges all expressed what a tough job it was to pick the participants and then to select the award recipients. We were able to give \$800 in Cash Awards and we hope to make it an even larger show with larger awards next year.

Those unfamiliar with Round Top, Texas, it is located about halfway between Houston and Austin just off of Hwy 290. If you are in the area please stop by and visit with Karen and Ken.



Best of Show - \$300 Award

"Freedom"

Jenny Forge Schmalsteig



Second Place - \$200 Award

"Desert Shadows"

Jenny Robinson



Third Place - \$100

"A Word of
Encouragement"

Paul Dykman



Honorable Mention - \$50

"A Golden Moment"

Lynne Jordan



Honorable Mention - \$50

"Making A Splash"

Rita Morris

(Continued)



Honorable Mention - \$50
 "Tried and True"
 Maria D'Angelo



Honorable Mention - \$50
 "So, What Do You Think?"
 Lou Sanders Albright

A LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

A Gift to the Members

After all the hard work by all of the members that participated in this, the Inaugural Show and Sale for The Western Associates and for all of you that had a lot to do for other shows and could not enter this years show it is time for something good to happen. Now it is not the greatest thing in the world, or the prettiest thing in the world, or the best thing in the world, but it is something.

For all the folks that took a chance and threw the dice and decided in 2013 to participate in and become a part of a brand new organization, **THE WESTERN ASSOCIATES**, we are going to reward you wonderful people by not having any of the first year enrollees pay dues until 2015. Our memberships run from January the 1st till December the 31st of any given year. So, you will not owe dues again until January 1, 2015.

Having just started the organization in 2013 and having the first show in 2014 it just seemed like the right thing to do. I know as working artists and in todays economy it is just harder than ever to stretch a dollar. That being said, we will continue to shape this new organization, enroll more great talent focused on our Western Heritage and plan for our next show in 2015.

I want to thank each of you individually and all Y'all as a group for putting up with me dropping the ball from time to time and participating in our first show.

"Ars longa, vita brevis!" Hippocrates

Pops Vanya

TW 'Pops' Vanya
 Director/Editor

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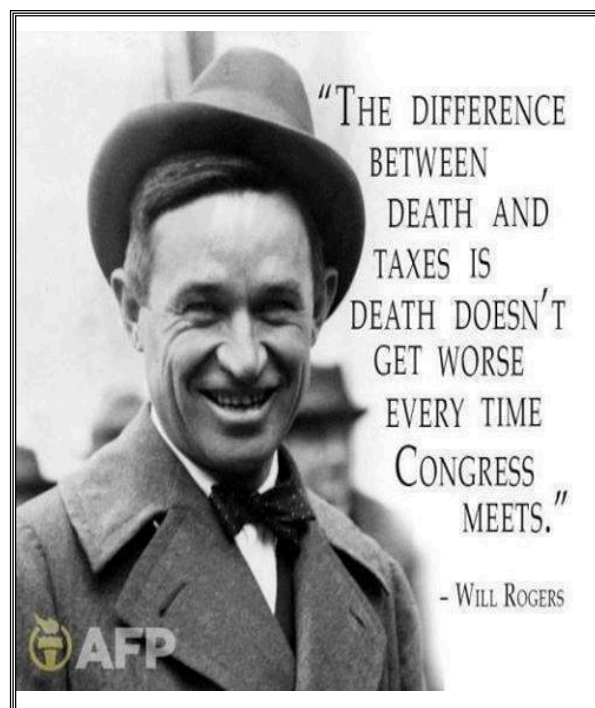
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"To be interested solely in technique would be a very superficial thing to me. If I have an emotion, before I die, that's deeper than any emotion that I've ever had, then I will paint a more powerful picture that will have nothing to do with just technique, but will go beyond it."

Andrew Wyeth

Jim Bob Swafford

WA Featured Artist

Jim Bob was born in 1940 in Decatur, Texas in Wise County. He grew up on a farm in Ropeville (Ropes) in the panhandle of Texas. "Things were not always easy back then trying to make a living for a family of six on 160 acres of dry land. "However family was always nearby and everyone helped the other get by". After World War II Jim Bob's first cousin Max Evan came back from the war and would visit the old farm in Ropes that once was their grandmothers. It was his relationship with Max that first opened up the world of art to Jim Bob. A relationship that stills continues to this day. Max Evans moved his young family to Taos, New Mexico and tried his hand at painting and drawing and hung out with the Taos artist of that time. Jim Bob was fortunate as a kid to visit Max while living in Taos and associate with artists that later became icons of the art world.

Max went on to become a writer of western lore with books such as "The Rounders" starring Glen Ford and Henry Fonda and the "Hi Lo County". Click Images to View Swafford studied art at Lubbock Christian University and Abilene Christian University. After a successful career in business and extensive travel Swafford became aware of the individual art styles of each area of the country and how they were influenced by climate, quality of light, attitudes and lifestyles. Now that Swafford has settled in Texas, he is absorbing into his own style elements of what he sees as unique to the south and west of the country. Over a period of time Swafford's style has moved towards stronger use of color and on emphasis on the essence of his subject matter. The artist paints southwest, landscapes, western lifestyle, cowboy life, wildlife, and floral. Watch the Video Below to See Jim's Artwork.

Jim Bob now lives in the small rural town of Bovina, Texas aka Bull Town (once the headquarters of the XIT ranch).



"Cowboys Prayer" by Jim Bob Swafford
westernartrodeoassociation.com/jim-bob-swafford/

Shows You Might Want to Enter and Deadlines

- 4th Annual Texas Spirit Art Show 2014 **Entry Deadline May 9, 2014**
Website: <http://www.opomac.net/21901/index.html>
- 29th Annual Bosque Art Classic **Entry Deadline May 19, 2014**
Website: <http://www.bosqueartscenter.org>
- A New Look At the West Show and Sale **Entry Deadline July 8, 2014**
Website: <http://anewlookatthewest.com>
- 2015 Application for Night of Artists Art Sale and Exhibition
Entry Deadline August 1, 2014
Website: <http://www.briscoemuseum.org>



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IF YOU ARE A WESTERN ARTIST AND INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP PLEASE VISIT
OUR WEBSITE:

[HTTP://WWW.WESTERNASSOCIATES.ARTISTWEBSITES.COM](http://WWW.WESTERNASSOCIATES.ARTISTWEBSITES.COM)