

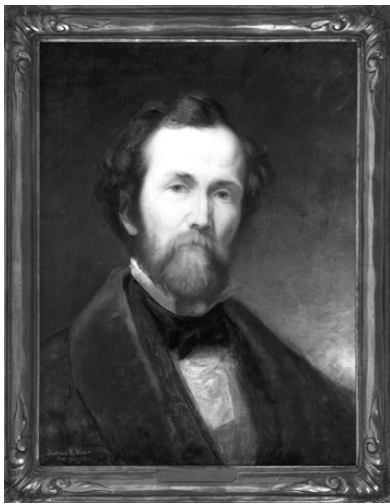
MIDWEST MUSEUM BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE MIDWEST MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART • 429 South Main St. • Elkhart, IN 46516 • (574) 293-6660
Volume 31, No. 3 MAY/JUNE 2009 MUSEUM HOURS: Tues. - Fri. 11:00-5:00, Sat. 1:00-4:00, Sun. 1:-4:00 (Free)

MEMBER AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

The 30th Anniversary Celebration

Junius Ralston Sloan (1827-1900) 19th Century Landscape Painter



In a celebration of its 30th Anniversary, the Midwest Museum of American Art in conjunction with the Brauer Museum of Art at Valparaiso University, presents an exhibition of 40 works by the 19th Century landscape painter Junius Sloan. The exhibit opens on Friday, May 1 and will continue through July 12, 2009. Sloan painted scenes of an America long since

quest of beauty. These paintings, watercolors, and sketchbooks are drawn from the Brauer's immense collection of the artist's work most of which were donated by Percy H. Sloan, the painter's son, beginning in 1953.

This exhibition presents the story of Junius Ralston Sloan (1827-1900), a self-taught Great Lakes Region artist whose 1860s paintings are considered the earliest depictions of life on the settled Illinois prairie. Beginning his career as an itinerant portraitist, he painted the citizens of Princeton, Illinois before moving to Chicago in 1864. From then on, Sloan participated in all of the important Chicago exhibitions showing his work alongside other nationally recognized painters such as Albert Bierstadt and Ralph Blakelock. Eventually Sloan is elected an Academician and Vice President of the Chicago Academy of Design. This was no small feat for an untrained artist who, like his peers, celebrated the American homeland as Edenic. In one of his many letters now housed in the Newberry Library Sloan states, "The sketching season is near at hand and during it I shall wander somewhat in quest of beauty."



Sloan's travels took him east where he observed and painted scenes of the untouched Hudson River valley. Other subjects included the Catskill Mountains, Lake George in upstate New York, and Vermont. This later journey happened during the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 that prompted the artist to move his family for a time to New York City. During the Panic of 1873 Sloan moved his family back to Chicago which remained his home base for the last 27 years of his life. Closer to home, Sloan painted views of the pastoral Midwest. In total, this exhibit of the works of Junius Sloan provides a rare opportunity for the public to view the rural landscape of an unspoiled America during a time when photography was still new and painters were the eyes of the nation.



above: "Self Portrait", 1858, oil on canvas, by Junius Sloan (1827-1900)
above right: "Cool Morning on the Prairie", 1866, oil on canvas on masonite; both works Gift of Percy H. Sloan, Brauer Museum of Art, Valparaiso University

"Kaaterskill Lake", 1870, oil on canvas, by Junius Sloan (1827-1900)
Gift of Percy H. Sloan, Brauer Museum of Art, Valparaiso University

ARCHITECTURAL RIVER CRUISE & The New Modern Wing of Art Institute

The first Bus Trip of the Summer takes you on the famous Architectural River Cruise on Tuesday, **July 21**. Join us for 90 minutes of genuinely tall tales and head-turning sights from the breathtaking vantage point of a boat's cruise deck as we venture up the Chicago River from North Pier. There will be complimentary Starbucks coffee, lemonade, fresh-baked muffins and cookies on board.

On the second leg of our journey we will visit the Art Institute of Chicago's **New Modern Wing**. Designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano, the Modern Wing will provide a new home for the museum's collection of 20th- and 21st-century art making Art Institute the second largest art museum in the United States. Lunch will be on your own.

Call for reservation at **293-6660**

Made in Michiana

30 Years of the "Best of Show" Awards

The Midwest Museum of American Art will be mounting an exciting exhibition of sculpture, paintings, & ceramics from the past 30 years of the Elkhart Juried Regional exhibits. The exhibit will open on **Friday, July 17** and continue through **Sunday, August 16, 2009**.

Every year the Midwest Museum has collected what the judges have chosen as *Best of Show*. This exciting collection of work is an historic survey of how the Michiana art world has changed and evolved. More information will be listed in the next Museum Bulletin.

In Search of NORMAN ROCKWELL'S **AMERICA**

"In Search of Norman Rockwell's America" is an exciting traveling exhibition that the Midwest Museum of American Art will host beginning **August 21** through **November 1**. This exhibit results from a photo journalist named Kevin Rivoli who set out on a mission 20 years ago to prove that Rockwell's America did and still exists. Mr. Rivoli's photographs will be shown side by side with Norman Rockwell's iconic paintings for a truly remarkable exhibit. The Midwest Museum of American Art is very fortunate to be able to show this new take on Norman Rockwell with the contemporary and complimentary photography of Kevin Rivoli. More information will be listed in the next Museum Bulletin.

Visit the Museum's Shop *for Unusual & Unique Treasures*

The Midwest Museum's gift shop features books on art, Native American jewelry, posters, prints, Ukranian eggs, & many other exciting and unique works by area artists. Museum Members receive discounts on certain items. It is open Tuesday through Sunday. Ask at the front desk today.

Happy Birthday MMAA

A note from the Director

For 30 years the Midwest Museum of American Art has followed its mission, "to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret" works of art by American artists. With this in mind, everything done by the museum has been driven by the desire to operate at the highest level of excellence.

Our Trustees, Advisory Board, Staff, and you the members, through your support, have allowed us to vigorously and responsibly pursue our mission to bring recognition to the often overlooked work of American artists. Your support in these challenging times, when support of the arts is more difficult to obtain, is especially worth recognition. In truth, the Midwest Museum of American Art wouldn't be here without the commitment of members like you.

I am inspired by our past successes and am looking forward to more years of even greater accomplishments at the Midwest Museum of American Art. Come by on May 3 at our Birthday Celebration so I can personally thank each of you.

Jane Burns, Director

Children's Summer Art Camps

The Midwest Museum will offer a new series of summer Art Camps for students ages 5 (who have completed Kindergarten) through ages 12. Enrollment in all Art Camps will be limited to 20.

FEES for each Art Camp will be \$50 (includes all materials)

ART CAMP I JUNE 15 - JUNE 19 (1-week)

Ages 5 - 7 yrs. 12:30pm - 2:00pm; Mon-Fri

Ages 8 - 12 yrs. 2:30pm - 4:30pm; Mon-Fri

ART CAMP II JULY 13 - JULY 17 (1-week)

Ages 5 - 7 yrs. 12:30pm - 2:00pm; Mon-Fri

Ages 8 - 12 yrs. 2:30pm - 4:30pm; Mon-Fri

ART CAMP II AUG 3 - AUG 7 (1-week)

Ages 5 - 7 yrs. 12:30am - 2:00pm; Mon-Fri

Ages 8 - 12 yrs. 2:30pm - 4:30pm; Mon-Fri

Art Educator, Bonnie Elder, will lead students on an adventure in creating drawings, watercolors, mixed media works and collages, while utilizing the museum's permanent collection of American Art for inspiration. New projects are emphasized for each session. Call 293-6660 for registration.

Make some Fröbel Ribbons

Join in for a one-day workshop with Lynda Sardeson to create a Fröbel Star. Named after Friedrich Fröbel, the inventor of the kindergarten, this star represents a design the educator developed from a mathematical equation. Sounds hard, but it's very easy to produce once you learn the basic steps. Lynda Sardeson has been making the stars for over 20 years and will help adults & students 12 years or older create a successful batch to take home.

Date: **Saturday, June 13, from 1:30-3:30PM**

Fee: **\$30**. includes all materials. Call 293-6660 to register

NOON □ TIME □ TALKS
every Thursday □ 12:20-1:00pm



A Special Series on

19th Century American Landscape Painting

that places Junius Sloan in the context of his era of American Art.

MAY 7 Junius Sloan (1827-1900)

Director Emeritus of the Brauer Museum of Art at Valparaiso University, Richard Brauer, assesses the career of Junius Sloan and the gift of paintings from his son Percy Sloan.

MAY 14 Thomas "Yellowstone" Moran (1837-1926)

Curator Brian Byrn introduces this National Gallery of Art film about American painter Thomas Moran whose works convinced congress to pass the first national park bill.

MAY 21 Albert Bierstadt (1830-1902)

Curator Brian Byrn discusses the work of the artist in relevance to the settling of the American West and how his paintings were perceived by Easterners.

MAY 28 Frederic Edwin Church (1826-1900)

From the 1850s to the 1870s, Frederic Edwin Church was the leading landscape painter in America. This film traces Church's career from his early studies in the Hudson River Valley to his largest paintings of the Americas.

JUN 4 Thomas Cole (1801-1848)

Assistant Curator Stacy Jordan presents a powerpoint lecture about this early romantic landscape painter who could produce both realistic and allegorical works.

JUN 11 Asher B. Durand (1796-1886)

Curator Brian Byrn presents a talk about the son of a watchmaker and silversmith, Asher Brown Durand. Durand was encouraged by Thomas Cole to become a landscape painter during the Financial Panic of 1837 and became one of the main proponents of the Hudson River School.

JUN 18 John Frederick Kensett (1816-1872)

Assistant Curator Stacy Jordan discusses the work of this 19th Century American painter. Beginning his career as a bank note engraver, Kensett became one of the leading painters of the Hudson River School, painting extensively throughout New England.

JUNE 25 Martin Johnson Heade (1819-1904)

Curator Brian Byrn presents a talk about this prolific painter of salt marshes, seascapes, tropical birds, and still lifes.

JULY 2 American Light: The Luminist Movement

This film presents the group of New England artists who from 1850 to 1875 created paintings of dramatic color and poetic light. (32-minutes)

TRIBUTES

The Midwest Museum of American Art gratefully acknowledges gifts in honor or in memory of special friends.

In Memory Of

Ruth E. Buckley

by Jane Burns
Alice W. Holtz
Tom & Dot Corson

June Deal

by Jane Burns

Steven Gattman

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Michael Wambaugh

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Kenneth C. Weed

by Jane Burns

In Honor of June Holloway's 70th Birthday

by Jane Burns
Brian & Lisa Byrn
Jeanne Jones
Judy Jones
David & Maria Solow

International Museum Day
Sunday, May 17
Free Family Admission Day

• **The ARTIST'S ATTic** •

a SALE of
unique ODDITIES and
cast-off treasures
this year's sale features lots of
books, prints, & pottery by Lina Zerkle

Friday, June 5
from 11am-5pm
Saturday, June 6
from 1-4pm

Cash Only. No Checks. All proceeds
from this sale benefit
the MMAA Acquisition Fund

The Midwest Museum Welcomes its New and Renewing Members

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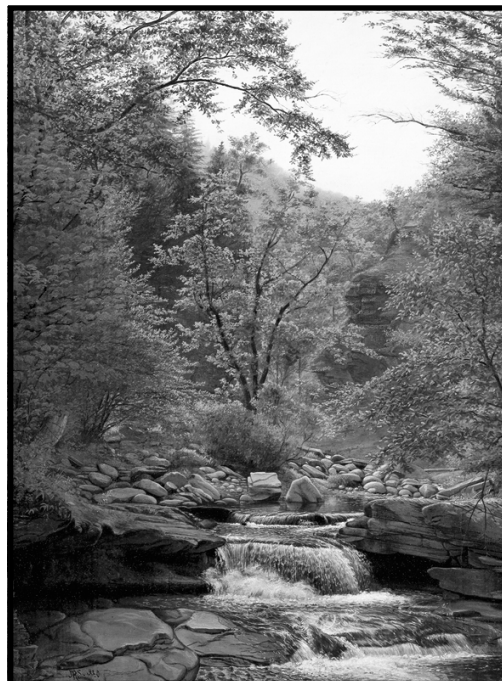
SENIOR

#*Peg Trobaugh

* Denotes New
or Increased
Membership

‡ Charter
Member since
1979

Has donated
for 10
consecutive
years



*"Small Falls,
Kaaterskill Clove"*
1860
oil on canvas
on Masonite
by Junius Sloan
(1827-1900)
Gift of Percy H. Sloan
(53.01.148)
Brauer Museum of Art
Valparaiso University

There's still time to donate your exotic
junktique for the Artist's Attic benefit....

30th MAA Anniversary Celebration
JUNIUS SLOAN: 19th Century Landscape Painter
Opens May 3 thru July 12
The ARTIST'S ATTIC SALE June 5 & 6
Children's Summer Art Camps in
June, July, & August

Midwest Museum of American Art
429 S. Main St., P.O. Box 1812
Elkhart, IN 46515

