

Calendar of Events:

Curator's Note:

Dale Nichols:
Transcending Regionalism
On view through November 18, 2011

David Sebberson:
The New Regionalism
On view through November 13, 2011

Jean Terry:
Upstate New York Farmstead
Nov. 30, 2011- Feb. 26, 2012
Reception: December 3, 2011, 2-4pm

Volunteer Christmas Party
Monday, December 5, 2011, 3pm

Museum Hours:
Wed- Sat 10am-4pm, Sunday 1pm-4pm
Appointments and tours available
Free admission

575 E Street, David City, NE 68632
402.367.4488
www.bonecreek.org



Dale Nichols, *When Day is Done, 1951*, Gold Seal Puzzle, Private Collection Loan

“I think that my memory paintings of my home state may be the only creations that I sign with full confidence.”
– Dale Nichols (1904-1995)



Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art exists in part to foster or find a nationally known contemporary version of **Dale Nichols**, painting from personal memory of his or her family farm. It is now about one hundred years after Nichols worked on his family farm. We still don't have a major contemporary American Agrarian Artist to replace Nichols. Bone Creek encourages a very few artists who paint from personal experience on family farms, to strive to achieve the major American artist stature of Nichols.

Since the museum opened in 2008, our featured 2012 winter artist **Jean Terry**, is the first of our artists, other than Nichols, to exhibit paintings stemming from her personal memories of being raised on a working family farm. As a fellow artist who shares this experience, I felt that only Jean could produce a one of a kind exhibit based on her pre-college life on her New York family farm. Luckily the farm is still in her family's ownership.

At my request, Jean has been working on these special paintings for over two years just for this exhibit. Fortunately, she has access to both the family farm and to photographs going back forty years. Terry says, “This is the most important project that I have ever worked on as an artist”.

Bone Creek fostered this exhibition because exceptional Agrarian Artists such as Terry cannot normally produce their work in the face of a dominant urban art market. With the demise of the family farm, rare Agrarian Artists such as Terry must move to cities and paint popular subjects in order to survive. Bone Creek provides both encouragement and a special national venue for these artists to do heartfelt work stemming from their increasingly rare agrarian experiences.

Through this unique exhibit, Terry and Bone Creek will increase awareness of the family farm, the land, and of man's dependence on weather and the environment. We are offering a multi-page gallery guide to memorialize this unique visual docudrama, as well as the exceptional art that only Jean could have created from personal experience. The booklet will include an introduction and an essay by Bone Creek curators, as well as painting images with commentary on each painting by Terry and her family. Please attend our artist reception Saturday afternoon, December 3rd to hear Jean talk about her work. I'll comment on the work as well, and you won't want to miss visiting with Jean about paintings of her upstate New York farmstead.

- Mark L. Moseman, Chief Curator

Board of Directors:
Anna Nolan (Covault)
Mark L. Moseman
Allen Covault
Michael L. Moravec
Paul T. Perske
Ryan Cameron
Carol Moseman
Tim Wollmer
Tom Neary

Our Mission is to be the National Center for Preserving, Viewing, and Learning about Exceptional Agrarian Art.

Agrarian- pertaining to lands, fields, or their tenure

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Jean Terry

Upstate New York Farmstead



This is the story of the Shaul farm family; an American family made up of a visionary father, a strong but tender mother, honest and earnest children, and a community that worked together. These images reflect the story of all farm families who dream to live off the land and raise their children with the values of commitment and integrity. In “Upstate New York Farmstead”, you will meet a number of the members of the Shaul family and be introduced to the operations of their roadside produce business and work with the Beechnut Babyfood Company.

In these twenty-two paintings are moments captured in time originally by the camera of her father and now approximately fifty years later brought to newness of life by color and canvas. Terry is an accomplished colorist pastel artist. Inspired by her father’s photos, Terry’s creative vision for color and composition revitalizes and newly interprets artistic impressions of farm life. Her application of color makes vivid for the viewer a rich memory in the artist’s mind.

The captured memories include moments like those found in “Schoharie Valley” as a mother and her daughter pause to survey the vast beauty of the terrain. Others are monumental annual events such as the harvest in “Fall Fervor” where the whole family works

from sun up to sun down. Scenes of plowing and planting may at first glance seem like ordinary activities for farmers. Look deeper and ponder the impact. What may be considered a family’s greatest achievements are collected here in the scenes of everyday family life on the farm. Considering the heartfelt experiences, the hard choices, the unexpected challenges that weather may create, the choice to remain steadfast, to trust in the hope of the high yield that makes it all worth it is confirmed.

Our past frames our perspective. This series moves from personal family memories of the artist to universal emotions and experiences of the public. The collection works within the bounds of traditional figurative painting to evoke a sense of place that is rarely



“To me, this is the most important project I have worked on as an artist.”
-Jean Terry

achieved in the greatest of landscape paintings. These subjects transform the platform of objective landscape to one of an experiential place both on location and from within.
Images: Top: *Slow n’ Steady* (detail), 2009, pastel, 18 x 24”, private collection
Below: *Fall Fervor*, 2009, pastel, 18 x 24”, private collection
Bottom: *Schoharie Valley*, 2011, pastel, 16x27”, private collection



NEWS from the field

Treat for all ages- Halloween, Monday Oct. 31 Special hours 1-5pm children activities between 3 and 5pm.



Focus on teaching- Artists took part in an artist workshop this October taught by Texas artist V...Vaughan. The demand for classes by this artist brought participants from five states to David City. Bone Creek is proud to be a part of bringing such an opportunity for fine arts instruction to the region.

Agri-tourism update- New to bonecreek.org is a page to connect visitors with other great agri-tourism stops on the way to or from the museum. Bone Creek is partnering with local businesses to provide a uniquely agrarian arts and cultural experience.

Emerging Artist Gallery

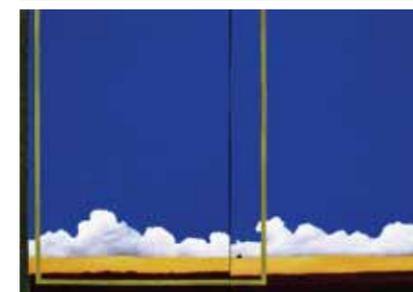
At first glance, two artists currently on exhibit, Dale Nichols and David Sebberson, do not appear to be similar. However, upon consideration, both artists make profound statements about the world around them in a symbolic, thought-provoking, and impressive manner. Notice for comparison the two paintings at right. Both artists paint their own artistic interpretation rather than a realist landscape. Representational art depicts something easily recognized by most people. We see flat cut outs rather than fully modeled forms but the landscape is clearly seen. Both works are more intellectual rather than intuitive expressions. Visitors from around the country have been impressed to see the comparison of these iconic regionalist artworks. Only here for a short time longer, these paintings are not to be missed!

Meet the Board- Michael L. Moravec is one of the founding board members, serving as the Treasurer since 2009. He is the President of Moravec Financial Advisors in David City. “Having grown up on a farm, I really appreciate the agrarian lifestyle and feel it is important to preserve the heritage of the farm and farm families,” says Mike. Moravec is very active in the community and in his church, along with his wife Laura and children. Next month we will feature new board member Tom Neary.



COLLECTION

Seven pieces from the print collection of Norman and Judith Zlotzky have recently been gifted to Bone Creek. This collection of lithographs and engravings add to the breadth of the growing collection in scope of subject matter, medium, source, and important historical records and events.



Top: Dale Nichols, *Cardboard Mountains*, 1944, oil, Collection of Jack and Sandy Tyrrell. Bottom: David Sebberson, *Open*, 2006, oil, 43x62”, Private collection.



Art Day Camp- Bone Creek partnered with the Butler County Arts Council in a four day Summer Art Day Camp for 8 year olds and up. Creative mosaics used beans, corn, and other seeds. Traditional media resulted in subject matter such as this group collage of a windmill shown with teacher Joan Cech and students. For inspiration, students also visited “Dale Nichols: Transcending Regionalism.” The best pieces were displayed in the public library for the month of August.

DALE NICHOLS CORNER



The **Nichols Round Barn** was built in 1911 by John D. Nichols. The barn was part of the V...Vaughan painting workshop, and was the subject of the monthly Butler County History Day at Winfields. After visiting the Nichols exhibition, ask our docents for directions to the round barn - a must see!!

Nichols Book- The 2011 MPMA publication design first place award winner *Dale Nichols: Transcending Regionalism* would make a great gift this Christmas. To order please call the museum or log on to our website www.bonecreek.org/shop.php.