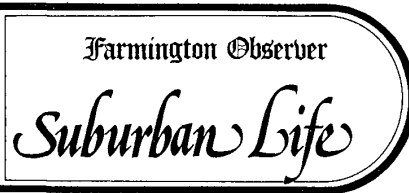




China painters view pieces of one another's work that will be part of "Festival of China Art" in Michigan Inn April 29-30. (Staff photos by Harry Mauthe)



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China painters gather for 2-day festival

By LORAIN McCLISH
Members from 15 chapters of the Michigan Federation of China Painters will meet in Southfield's Michigan Inn on April 29-30 for a "Festival of China Art."

It is the group's fifth show and sale displaying the works of about 125 china painters, with demonstrations running continuously through the show hours with help offered to get the beginner started.

Many of the painters have a specialty; they will be demonstrating how to decorate with gold or pewwork. The painting of porcelain bisque doll head will also be shown.

Dolores Petachenko, a Farmington china painter who belongs to the Birmingham chapter of the federation, zeroes in on chrysanthemums.

In the display she'll set up for her demonstration, she will show four plates each illustrating the four different steps of the painting process necessary to produce the finished process. She'll be demonstrating from 10:30 until noon on Saturday morning.

Mary Patuskay, another member of the Birmingham chapter, will show how to paint poppies beginning at 12:45 p.m. Friday.

GRACE COUYOUMJIAN, a Lath-

rup painter who belongs to the Betty Poellet chapter in Rochester, specializes in portraits, animals and people.

Ms. Couyoumjian stresses the demonstrations as an important part of the show to show that "this isn't something you can learn in 10 easy lessons."

All three of the women have been painting for upwards to 20 years, yet they all believe that being an artist, or having any previous art experience, was not necessary to begin china painting.

"You just have to have the desire," said Ms. Patuskay who is a teacher of china painting. "I've had students who I know will never be artists, but they derive therapy out of it and that, I think, exceeds the painting results."

Ms. Petachenko added, "Students just go step by step, learning one thing at a time and in a while you've developed into something worthwhile."

Speaking of china painters as a whole, the three women agreed they were, across the board, without competition with one another and eager to share new styles and new techniques.

"We are constantly learning from one another," Ms. Petachenko said. "We all learn through an exchange of

ideas, and all of our meetings are always open to guests."

THE BIRMINGHAM chapter now meets on Saturdays in the First United Methodist Church of Farmington on Grand River, and Ms. Petachenko said she would take inquiries on the workings of the group by calling her at 477-1121.

"You'll know us by our picnic baskets," said Ms. Couyoumjian. "We've found that we can carry our equipment and supplies most easily in a picnic basket, and the heavier the basket, the more we're painting."

The federation of china painters is a world wide organization; the Birmingham chapter is the oldest chapter in Michigan. Its purpose is to promote china painting.

Supplies may be purchased at the show, and each piece of china on sale will be hand signed by the artist.

Because the federation expects thousands of visitors during the two day show, all of the demonstrations will be held in a separate area, away from the shoppers, so guests can ask questions and learn about the art.

Show hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. A \$1 donation will be asked at the door.

Special ed classes look for teachers

The Special Education Association of Southfield is seeking persons to start two new enrichment programs for students who attend special education classes.

"There is a real need for a grooming class for these teenagers," said Helen Gottfried, speaking for the association. "We're looking for someone

who can teach them skin care, hair care and overall grooming. The second need is for some one to begin a carpentry class for teen-aged boys.

All activities and programs sponsored by the group are open to all children who attend special education classes in all surrounding areas.

Several enrichment classes are in operation now; most recently, the group sponsored a cooking class, free of charge to the participants, who meet Monday evenings in Southfield's Levy Junior High School.

Persons who are interested in starting the classes are asked call Mrs. Gottfried at 358-1875.



Art show coming

Artist Jerry Habsburg, and about 75 other artists, will be displaying paintings for the Farmington Artists Club's juried spring exhibit in Farmington Hills Community Library on Twelve Mile. The show and sale will include an open gallery from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., April 29 and 30, and noon to 5 p.m., May 1. There is no admission charge.

Interfaith talks set in Southfield

More than 200 priests, rabbis and lay people from throughout the United States and Canada will participate in the Third National Workshop on Christian-Jewish Relations April 19-21 at the Holiday Inn of Southfield.

"Christians and Jews will be coming together to discuss a wide variety of subjects—some of which have never really been dealt with before," said Father Alvin Dymally, pastor of St. Aloysius Parish in Livonia, national chairman of the Christian-Jewish Dialogue.

Among the local participants are:

Marge Alpern of Bloomfield Hills, a member of the executive board of the Michigan Chapter of the American Jewish Committee; Rabbi Irwin Gromer of Congregation Shaarey Zedek, member of the executive board of the AJC; Dr. Richard C. Hertz of Temple Beth El in Birmingham, AJC board member and John H. Shepherd of Southfield, president of the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Detroit.

Theme of the three-day workshop is "Living Together in the Age of Pluralism."

The conference is sponsored by the Catholic Bishops' secretariat for Catholic-Jewish relations and by the office on Christian-Jewish relations of the National Council of Churches, in cooperation with the American Jewish Committee.

OTHER SPONSORS are: the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the Jewish Community Council, the Archdiocese of Detroit, the Christian Communication Council of Metropolitan Detroit Churches and the Detroit Round Table of the National Conference of Christian and Jews.

(Birmingham) Thursday, April 21 from 1:00 to 8:00 P.M.

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