



2016 CALENDAR

ROYCROFTERS SUMMER SHOW
June 25th & 26th, 2016
10am - 5pm
Parkdale Elementary School
141 Girard Avenue, East Aurora, NY

ROYCROFTERS WINTER SHOW
December 3 & 4, 2016
East Aurora Middle School
430 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052
Directly across from the Historic Roycroft Campus

!

THE ROYCROFTERS-AT-LARGE PRESENTS

40TH ANNIVERSARY

ROYCROFT

SUMMER FESTIVAL

Parkdale Elementary School ■ 141 Girard Avenue ■ East Aurora, NY

JURIED ARTISANS FOOD ENTERTAINMENT

June 25th and 26th 2016 10AM TO 5PM

website: rclaweb.com ph: 716.655.7252



ROYCROFTERS-AT-LARGE ASSOCIATION

CHRONICLE

:: OUR MISSION ::

The Roycrofters-At-Large Association was formed over 30 years ago by a group of East Auroran's that included several descendants of the original Roycrofters, including Elbert Hubbard's granddaughter. The Roycrofters-At-Large Association, Inc. has been entrusted with educating, fostering and inspiring through the continual evolution of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

■ SUMMER 2016 ■

Art comes to life when Karen Matchette's pen hits paper

By Joe Kirchmyer

OK, I'll admit it. When it comes to collecting antiques, artwork and memorabilia, I'm a bit of a geek. Maybe not as bad as the guys on TV's hit show "The Big Bang Theory," who love to collect comic books and items linked to Star Trek and Star Wars, but pretty close.

But that's probably why I was so shocked and excited when, while doing online research on Roycroft Artisan Karen Matchette, I came across several references to her work on projects such as "Dennis the Menace" and "The Flintstones." As it turns out, this new pen & ink Roycroft Artisan, who specializes in house drawings, is also pretty well known to comic book enthusiasts.

The following is taken from a recent email conversation with Karen, who is now settled in Buffalo, N.Y., just a short drive from the Roycroft Campus.

Where did you receive your training as an artist? Was there formal training, or is it something that naturally developed on its own?

"I was raised in Buffalo and was always interested in art. My parents were encouraging and in my early teens I attended art classes offered in the basement of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. Later, I received my degree at Buffalo State studying graphic design."



The Internet claims that you're pretty well known in comic book circles, having worked as an illustrator for DC Comics at one point. What's most memorable about that time of your life?

"My real education happened in Carmel, California, where I landed my dream job as an apprentice to Hank Ketcham, the creator of "Dennis the Menace." I worked for Hank for 13 years learning the art of cartooning, and what a master he was ... a true artist extraordinaire!

"What was memorable was the complete education I received from Hank as well as meeting a whole community of wonderfully talented cartoonists and artists. Being able to play all the great Pebble Beach golf courses and live in such a magnificent place was inspiring.

It is also where I met my husband who was also encouraging and inspiring but unfortunately passed away six years ago.

"I started working for Hank as a comic book artist and then graduated to the Sunday pages. From pencil to finished color, I learned the ins and outs of the 'funny business.' After that I took on 'The Flintstones' strip for a syndicate that distributed overseas. This was a great opportunity as well and expanded my repertoire to include writing the script as well as executing the daily strip and Sunday pages.

Continued on page 3





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Board Meetings

Board meetings are regularly scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month. The first 15 minutes of the meeting is reserved for member comments, after which the board will enter a closed session. Contact the RALA Coordinator for details.

Join us on Facebook 



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is June and that means Roycroft Summer Festival time! This year Roycrofters At-Large Association's juried Artisans will again set up shop on the grounds of the Parkdale School at 141 Girard Avenue in East Aurora. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. there will be shopping, music, and food. Visitors to East Aurora will have plenty to see throughout the town with other events taking place the same time including the Art Society at the Middle School and The Roycroft Campus Art and Antique Show to name a few.

For the second year in a row several Roycroft Artisans will demonstrate their craft at the exhibition tent in the center of the show. I myself will show chasing and repoussé techniques on silver and bronze on Saturday. Stop by and learn more about what goes into hand crafted work.

This year's Goodie Box produced by Roycroft Artisans Brian Newton and David Tundo will be auctioned off on Sunday. Buy your tickets if you have not had a chance yet as you will not want to miss out on the over \$5000 worth of handcrafted goodies donated by a host of Artisans.

If you have not checked the website lately you might be surprised by our new look. Susan Lichtenthal has revamped our old site adding new content along with a complete makeover of the graphics and interface. While you are online checking out the new site, visit and like us on Facebook. New work and Artisan events are mentioned frequently on our Facebook wall.

See you Festival Weekend

Ron VanOstrand
2016 Roycrofters-At-Large Association President



Roycroft Artisans Brian Newton & David Tundo

The "Goodie Box" – The bowl is made from Norfolk Pine, it was turned on a lathe and sanded. The finishing process brings out the color and translucence of the wood and is polished to a high gloss. The Goodie top is made of heavy gauge copper using the techniques of chasing and repousse, similar to how the Statue of Liberty was created. The lid is a subtle tribute to Kitty Turgeon featuring the motto Head, Heart and Hand. It also has a prominent "Double R" trademark for our organization, founded by Kitty and others to support artists and the continuation and evolution of the arts and crafts movement.

Art comes to life when Karen Matchette's pen hits paper ...continued from page 1

"I had met Lynn Johnston of 'For Better or for Worse' fame while attending one of the Reuben Awards dinners (for cartoonists). She had told me down the road she might consider an assistant. So after four years of 'The Flintstones' (Time Warner lost the overseas contract and I was out of a job), I contacted Lynn and she hired me. I helped her with backgrounds and inking and later digital coloring. It was a good experience but my husband, who was working construction in California, had difficulty finding work up there in North Bay, Ontario, and so we decided to move back to Buffalo. I wanted to raise my children here where I grew up and have them know my mom and their cousins and family better. That is when I started working for DC Comics drawing 'Scooby-Doo,' which was also great fun.

"I did various comic book work for them, sometimes doing the pencil layouts and inking them and other times doing just the pencil sketches."

Today you specialize in pen & ink drawings of homes. How did that happen?

"Also at that time I was starting up my own business drawing houses which was starting to catch on. So when DC Comics moved all of their comic book operations out to LA and stopped using freelancers like me, I immersed myself in my pen & ink house portrait business. I still do some cartoon work and other art projects that I'm asked to do, but mostly my business is the pen & ink house drawings."

Joe Kirchmyer is president of Kirchmyer Media LLC, a communications company based in West Seneca, N.Y., and a member of the Roycrofters-At-Large Association's Board of Directors. You can contact him at jkirchmyer@verizon.net



You're new to the Roycrofters-At-Large Association. What drove you to apply for Artisan designation?

"When I met Susan Lichtenthal and saw her work as well as some the other Roycroft Artisans, I was very impressed with the quality of the art and wanted to be a member. I had been part of the National Cartoonists Society for years but since wearing more of an artist's hat for the past 10 years, I feel honored now to be a Roycroft Artisan. I look forward to continuing my artistic career and being surrounded by the talented artists of the Roycrofters-At-Large Association."



As an artist, do you find Buffalo to be an inspiring place to work?

"Being back in Buffalo has been a wonderful place to raise my children and inspiring for my craft. There is so much beauty in the architecture and the weather is always surprising — most of the time perfect for hunkering down and getting drawings done by the fire. As a Roycrofter, I hope to expand my artistic horizons to include beautiful East Aurora and maybe even move out there someday. I especially love the Arts and Crafts style of architecture and the whole landscape."

And in case you're wondering, unlike the Town of Bedrock — the fictional home of The Flintstones — there is no Cobblestone Way in East Aurora. But I'm pretty sure that if she looked hard enough, she could find a home in the village owned by a Mr. Wilson, and purchase the house next door.

