

Art Adventure | Sam Dalkilic-Miestowski

Rural Indiana painter



For the past two years, The Steeple Gallery, Ltd. in St. John, has been the first host site in a state-wide art exhibition which featured some of the most talented living Indiana artists.

The show is sponsored by The Hoosier Salon Patrons Association, which is headquartered in Indianapolis. The exhibit featured several talented artists from northwest Indiana. One of the artists which sparked lots of remarks as well as the awards from judges is Griffith native Andrea Bojrab.

Bojrab describes herself as an Indiana painter and her subject matter includes themes of rural Indiana life. I asked Andrea Bojrab to explain how she was inspired to paint her subject matter.

"Born and raised in Griffith, Indiana my childhood home was surrounded by hundreds of acres of prairie land and trees where I spent countless hours exploring its beauty. A few years previous, my parents had traveled to the U.S. from England with two children to settle in this small town and raise a family of nine.

My love of art naturally evolved from my love of nature. I was particularly fond of horses and I would constantly draw them by checking out every book from the library with a picture of a horse in it.

— Continued on next page



Photo provided to the Star
Artist Andrea Bojrab has completed several art pieces. At top, is "Our Secret Fishing Place," an oil on canvas, that sold for \$750. Center is "Bowl of Cherries," an award winning oil on canvas, that is priced at \$1,250. Immediately above is "Friday Night Lights," another oil on canvas, 16 inches by 20 inches, and which is not for sale.

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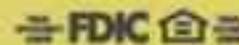
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Another step on the path to success



— Indiana artist, continued from page 2

After attending the American Academy of Art in Chicago for commercial art, I married in 1985 and moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana where I now reside. My art career was put on hold while I raised my family.

About five years ago I decided to seriously take up painting again. Only this time I was determined to learn to paint “en plein air” (outside). I was very fortunate to have been able to paint along side some very talented impressionist painters and my love for the impressionistic style of painting grew.

There is nothing quite like going out in the early morning to setup my easel along side a stream or hilly landscape and enjoy the surroundings as I try to convey on canvas some mood or feeling as to how I am interpreting the scene in front of me.

In the last few years I have taken many workshops with very accomplished artists from



around the country.

Since I live near many Amish farms I have endless opportunities to paint one of my still favorite subjects, the beautiful Belgian work horses. I don't copy them as a camera lens would but try to capture my thoughts in an expressive note somewhere between impressionism and realism. I don't begin to believe for a minute that I could paint a rainbow as God paints it, but by painting, I do believe it's my way of appreciating and thanking Him for what he created for our enjoyment."

On July 10th, Steeple Gallery artist Andrea Bojrab won several distinctive awards at the Fort Wayne Artists Guild 2009 32nd Annual Ventures in Creativity Exhibition. "Eight At Work" won Best of Show, "Afternoon Chores" won 1st place, and "Bowl of Cherries" won a Memorial Award. The exhibition runs from July 10- August 1, 2009 and is on display at the Allen County Public library in downtown Fort Wayne. To view other works by Andrea Bojrab, please visit The

Steeple Gallery, Ltd.,
11107 Thiel St., St. John.
Call 219-365-1014, or
email samowner@sbcglobal.net.

Photos provided to the Star
Bojrab's works include many outdoor scenes painting nature. At top right, "Eight at Work," is an oil on canvas and is sold. Center right, "Afternoon Chores," is \$2,200; while at right is "Field of Pumpkins," priced at \$1,150. Above center, is another example of an oil on canvas of a little girl picking flowers.



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