

COUPLE OPENS GALLERY

Talents Combine In Art Business

By ETHEL SIMMONS
Arts Editor

"I collected the art, and he's been building," said Carol (Mrs. Allen) Rubiner, explaining the teamwork that has gone into the young couple's Art-frames Co. which opened recently.

The couple both attended Cornell where she majored in painting in the college of architecture, receiving a bachelor of fine arts degree in 1958. Rubiner got his B.A. in business earlier, in 1957, and before that was a local boy, attending Cranbrook School (class of '53).

Prior to starting the fragile shop and art gallery at 627 S. Washington, Royal Oak, he had been in sales for a meat packer and in real estate.

Rubiner learned the art of picture framing "in self-defense."

Rubiner constructed all the shop's platforms and equipment. He "makes a lot of molding from scratch." There are at least 200 ways, in general, to frame a picture, he reported.

HE HAS done all the building of frames himself, and many pictures in the show are examples of his framing. He has made versions of a floating frame which is popular in New York and has designed a hinged, interchangeable frame to be used in the home for children's art work.

This comes with a series of different-size mats, easily placed as the child comes from school with his latest creation. The couple, who live in Royal Oak, had been fixing up the gallery since October. The Art-frames Co. grand opening was held Nov. 29.

Said Rubiner, "There are very few places for the discovery of artists. There is room for a suburban gallery that handles accomplished Michigan painters."

"I FRAMED my wife's paintings, then framed for a lot of other artists. It mushroomed from week ends into a business."

The gallery, which looks small from the outside with its narrow facade, actually occupies about 15,000 square feet.

About one-third of this space is used for framing. "There are 144 nails in each lattice work," said Rubiner, pointing to a series of three holders he built for picture frame molding.



OWNERS OF NEW ARTFRAMES CO. GALLERY
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Rubiner of Royal Oak

Also shown are all kinds of crafts including pottery, ceramics, creative stitching, weaving, hand-drawn Christmas cards, note paper and hand-made jewelry.

Birmingham artists represented include painter Beva Shwayder, who has had several one-man shows, and Jayne Van Alstyne, potter, a new products designer at General Motors.

FROM TROY is Gordon Orear who previously has held exhibitions of his pottery.

Other exhibitors include Russell Holt, Susan Bolt, Bert Brocure, Dart Gowaine, Douglas May, Marjorie Hecht, William House, Richard Eskharian, Maya Jaklitsch, Susan LeVan, Cyril Miles, Pat St. Cyr, Jayne Van Alstyne, Carol Wald, George Fisher and Mrs. Rubiner.

Editor's Chair Provides Close-Up of U.S. Writers

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Our forefathers' "American experiment" appears to be paying off.

Edward Weeks, editor of the Atlantic Monthly, told his Birmingham Town Hall audience last week that this "experiment's" success is being proven by the number of Americans who are becoming leaders overseas and our own top citizens.

"These are second and third generation immigrants processed by American education into a new bloodstream coming to the surface," he said.

Weeks, who has been with the popular literary publication since 1924 and its editor for 26 years, said that from his editor's chair he could feel reverberations from all over the country.

"AN EDITOR does his work out of the spiderweb of friendship he has woven over the years," he said. "The pulse of America can be felt through the manuscripts that cross my desk," he added.

Doing most of his reading in the evening, Weeks estimates he receives more than 50,000 manuscripts a year ranging in size from short poems to full-length books.

Briefly tracing the contemporary history of American literature, Weeks called the 1920's the "golden age of fiction."

"The year 1924 was the age of serenity," he said. "Americans were not concerned with the problems abroad and we had few domestic troubles of our own."

ERNEST Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Amy Lowell were cited by Weeks as being products of the golden age.

Weeks edited Hemingway's first long short story and described the writer as being an author of "great propriety." He referred to Miss Lowell as a woman "built like a good running guard."

The country was shocked out of this "golden age" by the effects of World War II and the emergence

of the Atomic age, according to Weeks.

This he said is when the "experiment" began to pay off for America.

PRIOR TO that time, Weeks said, one out of every four works submitted to the Atlantic for publication was written in dialect.

Now, he noted, the figure has become one out of about every 1,000 manuscripts.

"Our experiment of people is showing marked progress... The writers of today want to write in English," he said.

Weeks had special praise for what he called the exodus "producers" who go to the trouble spots of the world.

The Americans who go abroad to help less progressive nations are not eggheads," he said.

"THEIR LETTERS to home show they want us to know the problems of other countries and be interested in them."

"They become so involved with these problems that their writings bleed for the truth." These writings, he said, have become the "skin and blood" of current literature.

One of the more pleasant or "fun" duties of his job, Weeks said, was discovering new authors. He takes special pride in the fact he "discovered" the literary talents of actor Peter Ustinov.

THE TALL, New Englander makes yearly trips to England and the Continent in search of new talent and material for The Atlantic.

Five years ago he was able to have close contact with novelists, poets and editors of Russia, when he traveled 11,000 miles within the Soviet Union as one of a delegation of Americans sent on a cultural exchange program by the state department.

Since he took over as editor of The Atlantic, the magazine's circulation has grown from 100,000 to more than 270,000.

Dr. Kenneth Gass, rector of St. James Church, introduced Weeks at both lectures in the Birmingham Theater. Luncheon receptions followed both days at the Birmingham Country Club.



ATLANTIC'S EDITOR LOOKS OVER NOTES
Edward Weeks visited Birmingham Town Hall

Warmth, Accuracy Distinguish Work

Animal Drawings, Paintings in Exhibit by Carolyn Hall

Reviewed by
KATHARINE SMITH

Carolyn Hall's conte crayon drawings of animals are in marked contrast to her highly patterned and intricate paintings of the same subjects, 36 of which are combined to make up the current show at Jacobson's Studio of Fine Arts.

The drawings are direct and uncomplicated, usually without any environmental trimmings. Most of them are quick studies done from life at the Detroit Zoo.

She succeeds with what appears to be a medium of effort, in presenting her subjects with warmth and accuracy, be they beetles or polar bears.

MY FIRST choice was a half-submerged hippopotamus, 16" x 24", and my second, a raccoon in the fork of a tree. But I also liked the polar bears and the beaver, and the four flamingos lined up frieze-fashion, their curving postures making a continuous dancing motion. This one is done in brown ink and is 24" x 14".

And there's a lovely group of bottles done in ink with a wash much larger than life and much neer to have around.

MRS. HALL'S accurate drawing is still much in evidence in her paintings, but the emphasis now is on pattern and light and color. The study "Zebra" melts and mixes with his background, emerging more sharply here, dissolving

there as he picks up background color and the background repeats his pattern.

The same is true of "Turtle"—a merging or synthesis of animal pattern becoming background pattern, the color all intermingled, without destroying the solidity of the animal.

A large painting titled "Bats" is full of moody, flapping night shapes and eerie reds and purples. "Two Cats" is much more typical of Mrs. Hall's generally bright and cheerful mood, which she puts across in marvelously fragmented color groups of both shapes and lines.

To a child, I'm sure these cats would seem "real," with their curly tails and familiar faces, but

if you analyze their colors, one combines mauve, green, cream, orange, red, brown, gray and purple, and the other is tan, white, yellow, green, red, orange and cream!

And the patterning in this case has more to do with the random wrinkling of the paper than with the shape of cats. This is a technique used most effectively by Mrs. Hall.

She scrunches up her paper, then rolls it smooth and uses the resulting pattern as her point of departure for what then becomes a series of delicate decisions as to what to use and what to lose.

In MOST of these paintings her materials are a combination of transparent and opaque water-color, plus acrylic based pigment, put together in a highly personal, skilful, fanciful and decorative way.

This show will surely delight all the animal-loving children who are lucky enough to see it along with their art-loving parents. Gallery hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday and until 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, to Dec. 19.

Dad Worried About Entry Mailed Late

Last year there was the coloring contest entry that arrived late with a note written on an executive letterhead in which a father explained that he'd been given the coloring earlier but forgot to mail it.

He hoped, said the father, that his child's entry would be included in the competition, or else he'd have only himself to be blamed by one unhappy youngster!

Don't take a chance by delaying until the last day (Saturday with a postmark before midnight) to see that the boys and girls in your family get their entries on time.

COMPLETED entries can be mailed or brought in to The Birmingham Eccentric. Judging will be done by Ethel Simmons, arts editor; George Landino, Groves High School art teacher; and Southfield sculptor Betty Conn.

Full details of the third annual Christmas Coloring Contest sponsored by The Eccentric can be found on the contest blank.

A last-minute problem arose in 1959; whereas the winners were chosen and one of the top prize-winners (entries included only the children's name, address, school and grade) was discovered to have an unlisted phone number.

FINALLY, through the school, (See ENTRY, 4-D)



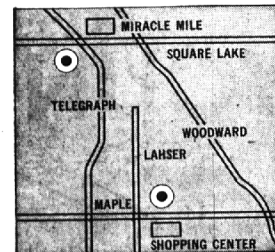
'History' in the Making

Birmingham author S. L. A. Marshall autographed copies of his recently published book, "The American Heritage History of World War II," Nov. 30 at LaBelle's, 137 W. Maple. With Marshall (right) at the autograph party were (from left) Ernest Jackson, owner of LaBelle's bookshop, and Joseph A. Vetrano, representing the publishers, Brig. Gen. (U.S. Army Ret.) Marshall, who

lives at 897 Westchester Way, is a war historian who previously has written best-selling books on World War II. Among these are "Pork Chop Hill," which was made into a movie, and "Battle at Best," also published this year. The pictorial World War II history was published by American Heritage and distributed by Simon and Schuster.

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