



LONDON VISUAL ARTS GUILD

LONDON ART CENTER

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M IS FOR MAY AND MURALS

Last month we had the showers that brought the May flowers. We also had a preview of what Mr. John Victor can do with an array of paints and a few brushes. He painted his mural in Costa Rica.

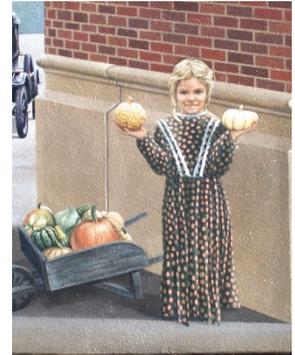
A mural is a painting that is applied to and made integral with a wall or ceiling surface. It is not necessary that it be breathtaking, but it usually is.

John Victor's piece reminded me of something that is right before our eyes, that we probably never considered. Ohio is loaded with murals. You only need to find them, and many are to be found in Ohio. There are over 200 of them in the state, and some are quite spectacular.

We have been blessed with many murals, some of which are breathtaking and large. The major part of this newsletter will contain some of the murals I have visited over the past few years in our home state.

I used to receive calls which included invitations to visit certain UFO groups in Ohio and the surrounding states. One request was from The Roundtown Ufo Society in Circleville. The Circleville mural was being designed the first time I lectured at Roundtown, but the third visit included a photo op at the mural facing the bank parking lot.

The mural is on the side of the Johnson Building at 116 E. Main St. and faces the parking lot at the adjacent bank. It was painted by Eric Henn and is a wonderful piece of workmanship depicting the history leading up to the 100th Pumpkin show. Eric also has created a bicentennial mural at 1508 W. Main St. in Ashville, Ohio. They are worth visiting.



Another display of artistic excellence is on the side of two buildings in the city of Bucyrus, Ohio in Crawford County. One is 'Great American Crossroads'. The other is 'Liberty Remembers'.

These beautiful displays of art were created by Eric Grohe. 'Great American Crossroads' depicts the history of the community going back 100 years and was finished in 1999. 'Liberty Remembers' is a composite of the veterans of Crawford County from the revolution beginning in 1775 and continuing through 2001.





Definitely worth seeing

The Chakeres brothers mural is the most interesting to me for it is part of my life and growing up.

I attended the Regent Theater religiously many times during my school years and after. Before I could drive, I was dropped off when my mom would go shopping. I would take in a movie and be returned to South Charleston where we lived.

After I received my drivers license, it was me and the other guys, at times including my sister and a friend or two of hers. Then it was me and a girl that was not a friend of my sister.

In the summer the trips to Springfield, were intersperced with a venue called the Melody Drive-in. The mural is in the memory of the Chakeres brothers.



It is by the railroad tracks across from the old market building, close enough that you can visit the library and the concert hall. The old arcade was around the corner. Take route 40 to Springfield and you pass the Melody and the newer Chakeres theater as you approach the city of Springfield.



LONDON ART CENTER PROGRESS

121 East First St.



Stanley Electric of London is a new contributor to our London Visual Arts Guild. We thank them for supporting our efforts in the community as we promote art at all levels. We welcome Stanley Electric.

The progress has been slow during the corona virus problem, but we are gradually making headway. We are preparing for a few changes to enhance the building exterior and interior for our grand opening.

We hit a little glitch now and then, but we will have smoother sailing and have the new building spruced up for August or September. Be patient with us, for we believe this will be an addition of which the entire community will be proud. Thank all of you who have helped for your hard work and support.

Nothing is impossible. The word itself says I'm Possible.

Audrey Kathleen Ruston

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