

Plein Air 2011

Year 17. The Magic is still working, so we still after all these years don't want to change much. We'll return to most of our favourite sites, but this year we are returning to some old ones. Same rules as before: there are none. We want only your camaraderie and your enthusiasm. You are welcome to come to as many or as few as you can.

- . Open to all artists. Pass it around to your friends. Free. Sites with entrance fees are noted.
- . Meets Tuesday at a new site, 10AM until the last one goes home.
- . Your choice of medium, what you can carry, plus your lunch.
- . No rain checks. Unless there is a weather warning to stay home - go for it. A 40% chance of rain means a 60% chance of sunshine. If not, paint the rain. We're often very lucky.
- . No reservations. If you plan on attending, just show up.

May 24 - The Lachine Canal at the Fur Trader's Museum. A long park along the water and a narrow canal with overhanging foliage. You might want to wander off to paint the churches across the street. Metered parking. 1255 blvd St. Joseph, Lachine

May 31 - Moulin Legaré, 232 St-Eustache, Saint-Eustache.
http://www.bonjourquebec.com/qc-en/attractions-directory/museum-interpretation-centre-historic-site/moulin-legare_1173026.html Fabulous waterfall with an old flour mill, built 1762, good views along the footpath, rushing water and calmer pools. There are heritage homes on the street worth painting, and I found a great health bar Soucy Sante at 214 rue st-eustache (soucysante@videotron.ca) Public parking 100 yards from entrance. Cross the footbridge.

June 7 - The Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes Sanctuary, Rigaud. A place of pilgrimage, grotto, chapel. There's a grand view of the surrounding Suroit region, all the way to the US border. 20, rue Bourget. Exit Rigaud on rte 40, direction Ottawa, and follow signs. Donations box.

June 14 - Baie D'Urfe Town Hall. It's time to go back to one of our great sites. There is a beautiful rock garden here, with ponds and waterplants. The Town Hall building itself is charming, and from here you could walk over to the park on the bay to view either the boats or Fritz' Farm. Highway 20, exit Morgan road to the end.

June 21 - Parc-nature de l'Ile-de-la-Visitation. 2425 Gouin. A well-tended park, historical houses in the Old Ahuntsic area. My favourite spot is the mill ruins behind the Maison de Meunier *, where some of us have lunch at the (very crowded) outdoor cafe-terrace. Past Papineau to Gouin [one-way], follow the signs to De Lille. *Best street side parking here.

June 28 - Camp Pioneer, a hobby farm. Gardens and farm animals, cabins and barns, a lodge filled with antiques (we painted indoors one year). 45 min. from Fairview. Take the 20 exit 2 (Riviere Beaudette), right on rte 325 for 10.6 miles. 2538 Mtee de la Station, Ste Justine de Newton.. \$7.50. Call ahead to book lunch, \$6. soup & sandwich, (450) 764 3560

July 5 - The Ecomuseum, 21,125 Chemin Ste Marie, Ste Anne de Bellevue. Animals are a real challenge, but the owls pose for us. If you are not an animal painter, there is the marsh lake with its bridge span which has inspired many good paintings. Take exit 41 or 44 on Highway 40, follow the signs for Chemin Ste Marie. Entrance fee.

July 12 - Coteau-du-lac National Historic Site. One of our first favourite places. Rolling hills overlooking rapids, a canal, cannons, ship skeletons and fishing holes, with a neighbouring millhouse, with a terrasse overlooking the falls. A famous hotdog stand Le Caveau on the corner. Exit 17 off Highway 20 west, south to the end, turn right on Chemin du fleuve, to 308A on the left. \$3.40

July 19 – Greenwood, 254 Main Street, Hudson. A beautiful historic home built between 1732-1860. Now a Centre for Living History. Their famous phlox should be in bloom this week. Rte 40, direction Ottawa, exit 26, right on Bellevue, left on Main. Street parking. Donations box, or annual memberships available www.greenwood-centre-hudson.org

July 26 - Ste Anne de Bellevue Canal National Historic Site. The bridge is finished, they've lifted the odometers, let's go back! There is so much to paint: the boats, the locks, the large open waters, the bridges, the roof lines of the clustered shops and restaurants and tourists on the promenade. Highway 20, exit Ste Anne de Bellevue. 170 Sainte-Anne Street. The best viewpoint is at the park itself, across the locks.

August 2 - Pointe du Moulin. Ile Perrot. There is still so much to paint here. On highway 20 to Ile Perrot turn on Don Quichotte right through to the very end. The mill is difficult to paint - it has become a challenge that draws artists back every year. Free on Tuesdays.

August 9 – Centre de la Nature Laval. 901 ave. du Parc. We haven't been here in a long time. Lots of new changes, but my favourite is still the rock gardens, the swan and geese in the pond, the gazebos and paths up by Parking Lot #4. rte 440 to 25 south. centrenature@ville.laval.qc.ca

August 16 - The Lachine rapids, in Lasalle. The best view of the churning rapids, in a well-groomed park with small bridges through bird sanctuaries and gnarled trees, against the backdrop of the city. Take the river road. It becomes Lasalle blvd, and just east of Bishop Power is the parking lot, between 5th and 6th ave.

August 23 - Ile des Moulins Park in Terrebonne. A picturesque island setting with a cluster of old stone buildings. Stroll by the river for the rapids, or across a quiet bay with summer houses, or the historic lane now the hub of gourmet restaurants. Autoroute 25 north, exit 22 E to rte 344, chemin St Louis. Well sign posted. Note: rte 440 in Laval merges with highway 25.

August 30 - Le Vieux Kitzbuhel - We've made special memories now of our last day as an annual ritual with lunch at an open air restaurant. Plenty to paint, the stone house, the gardens. Let's do what we did last year, cancel the "collection" and say "thanks" instead with a *show and tell* of our favourite summer works (even if not of this year's). Call ahead if you want something special, 514 453 5521. Rte 20 to blvd. Perrot south. 505 blvd Perrot.

Can't wait ! Linda Drewry email ldrewry@aol.com

