



# THE LAKE COUNTY WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB

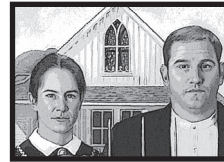
Wants to Remind you to **VOTE** on  
Tuesday, Nov. 8th, 2011.  
Polls are Open 6 AM - 6 PM

For Public Service, Not Self-Service,  
Please Vote For Our  
Democratic Candidates

- President: Karen Bilski - Petalas
- Vice-President: Gail Harris
- Secretary: Diane Hoernig
- Treasurer: Peggy Holinga-Katona
- Corresponding Secretary:  
Ofelia Gregoline
- Financial Secretary: Barbara Morales

(Paid for by the Lake County Women's Democratic Club)

# Advertising illustrator returns to painting



**SAM DALKILIC-  
MIESTOWSKI**

Art adventure

**J**ohn Ward was born in Iowa City, Iowa in 1949. John lived in a three-story house on Court Street in Iowa City.

In the house just across the street had lived the artist Grant Wood from 1934 to 1941 when he taught painting at the University of Iowa.

The stories of Grand Wood living across the street were Ward's first exposure to the art world. John remembers looking up photos for Wood's paintings at the local library. These paintings helped inspired him to become an artist.

After high school, Ward attended the Colorado Institute of Art in Denver, where he learned the basics of art and put together a portfolio geared to commercial art illustration, graphic design and typography.

In 1972, he accepted a position at an affiliate of ABC TV.

One of John's jobs was to promote the station's late night movies and special TV events. It seemed that he would always paint an illustration of some sort to promote the movies.

If asked about this job, John remembers, "sometimes I had a deadline of the very next day and I would be up all night painting for the promotion."

After two and half years, John moved back to Iowa to a small design studio as an illustrator. He did a variety of illustrations from farm tractors for John Deere & Company to a painting of President Herbert Hoover commemorating his 100th birthday and the work that Hoover did with the Boy Scouts.

The original painting was given to the Hoover presidential museum, and is hanging in the museum today.

In 1976, John had the opportunity to take a position as an art director for Leo Burnett Advertising and worked there for the next 34 years. John's painting took a back seat to his advertising career.

He worked on a variety of accounts including Kellogg's cereals, Eggo Waffles, Wilson Tennis equipment and Virginia Slims cigarettes.

John has been awarded several Addy Awards for his creativity and art direction through out his career.



Champion huskies (above) and Geronimo (left), both watercolors by John Ward.

In 2001, Ward moved to the international side of advertising. Creating new international campaign for Virginia Slims and L&M.

Client meetings were now in Switzerland. Photo shoots were in Paris and London. In 2004 and 2005, John spent six weeks each year in Moscow. He was helping the Leo Burnett Moscow office with the Russian L&M campaign.

John Ward decided in 2010 to retire from advertising.

He has been living in Schererville for the past 25 years with his family.

He is looking to a new outlet for his creativity, his painting. He enjoys painting watercolors because he likes how they look and flow and work on the paper. They are a challenge to work with but very fulfilling when they are completed. He likes to keep his work simple and graphic.

His years in the Denver area and his love for history can be seen in a lot of his paintings, as can his graphic experience.

John's graphic experience also shows up when he works his black ink on paper, very large in size with simple brush strokes.

For more information to view John J. Ward's watercolors contact him at [jlaa4@comcast.net](mailto:jlaa4@comcast.net) or (219) 227-8411.