

Wayne Baize

ARTIST, GENTLEMAN, LEADER

Wayne Baize never envisioned it in his youthful dreams, but now he takes his place as president of Cowboy Artists of America for its 42nd year, succeeding John Moyers. While he began honing his artistic skills during his boyhood, he never imagined he would join the prestigious CAA, let alone stand as its leader. Learn more about the story behind the humble, talented and successful artist that will guide CAA in the coming year.

Q: How did you get started in Western art?

A: I started taking private lessons when I was 12. My father was a stock farmer, and the horses and cattle are what I was always interested in and what I wanted to draw. After high school, I stayed at home and took more lessons. I worked at several places and drew at home. I eased into it in the 1960s when Western art was really catching on. I started out doing pencil work. Eventually I did portraits of horses and people, but I prefer horses. It just fell into place.

Q: Who were your influences?

A: [CA Emeritus Member] Tom Ryan has been a major influence on me. I met him in '68 or '69 at a Fort Worth stock show. I recognized him, and my brother encouraged me to gather up the nerve to go meet him. He invited me to the CA show in 1969, and I visited him in Lubbock so he could critique my work. He has been an influence ever since. Tom and fellow CA Bill Owen are my heroes, and I attended all the sales in Oklahoma until the event moved to Phoenix, and then I attended most of them there.

Q: How did you become a member of CAA?

A: Several CAs encouraged me to apply, and I tried three times before I was accepted. I considered it a privilege even to be considered, and when I wasn't accepted initially, I took it as a challenge. It seems like for every step ahead I took, they took two. They finally surprised me by accepting me in 1995.

Q: What does it mean to you to be a member of CAA?

A: It is an honor and challenge. I still feel the same way as when I first got in. I'm overwhelmed by the privilege of getting to show up and exhibit. I have to pinch myself still. You always have dreams, but I was shocked when the dream came true. I still feel like I'm dreaming.

Q: What does it mean to you to be CAA president?

A: It's exciting and challenging. I told the group that I would need a lot of backup support. I know I can call anybody, and they'll help me in any way they can. That's part of being a CA.

Q: What would you like to accomplish during your year as president?

A: I want the 2007 show to be a great one, and I'm encouraging everyone to put in their best work this year. Each member is committed to the principles of CAA, and I think the group is just going to get better and better.



Wayne Baize (center) with wife Ellen, daughter Elizabeth and sons Charles and William.

Q: How do you feel about the supporters of CAA?

A: We appreciate them and we thank them for coming to the show year after year. We will make sure it will be worth their while to come to the 42nd Annual Sale at Phoenix Art Museum in 2007.

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Heritage, Harley Brown, 2006, Pastel, 27" x 29". Courtesy of the artist.



IT'S A WRAP!

CA Sale grossed an impressive \$2.3 million



The 22 active members of Cowboy Artists of America had their work cut out for them this October. On the heels of last year's anniversary Sale, one of the most successful to date, CA members wanted to keep the momentum going for the organization as a tribute to founder Joe Beeler, who passed away in the spring of 2006.

And honor Beeler they did. The 41st Annual Sale, which took place at Phoenix Art Museum on Oct. 20, grossed approximately \$2.3 million – the same as last year. Newer and more seasoned members alike brought

their best work from the previous year to the Sale – more than 130 works in total.

As always, a portion of the proceeds from the Sale benefits Phoenix Art Museum and its Western Art Endowment Fund. The annual Sale, organized by Phoenix Art Museum's Men's Arts Council, is one of the Museum's most successful fundraisers. The Exhibition of works from the Sale remained on view from Oct. 21 through Nov. 19 so the public could also enjoy a taste of Western American art at its best.

RIDING high

CA MEMBERS TAKE TOP PRIZES
FOR FIRST-RATE WORK

Award winners for the 41st Annual Sale & Exhibition



CAA Award — Artists' Choice
Award for best overall exhibition, John Moyers of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Ray Swanson Memorial Award
Award for work of art that best communicates a moment in time and captures the emotion of that moment
Visions of Change by John Coleman of Prescott, Arizona.



Gold — Oil
Changing Woman by Donald Crowley of Tucson, Arizona.



Silver — Sculpture
War Talk by T.D. Kelsey of Guthrie, Texas.



Gold — Drawing and Other Media
Wenonah's Dance by Harley Brown of Tucson, Arizona.



Silver — Oil
The Apparition by John Moyers of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Silver — Water Soluble
Days End by David Halbach of Graeagle, California.



Gold — Water Soluble
Western Art Associates' Kieckhefer Award for Best in Show
The Eagle and the Snake by John Moyers of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Silver — Drawing and Other Media
A Warrior's Journey by John Coleman of Prescott, Arizona.



Gold — Sculpture
White Shell Woman by Oreland Joe of Kirtland, New Mexico.

JOE BEELER Takes Last Bow at CAA Sale

CAA founder Joe Beeler passed away last April, but his art made one final curtain call at the 41st Annual Sale & Exhibition. *Sugar for the Trail*, a limited-edition bronze, was the last piece Beeler completed before his passing. His family decided to include the sculpture in the Sale & Exhibition to honor Beeler.

CAA worked with Beeler's son, Jody Beeler, and Bronzsmith Foundry to complete the sculpture, photograph it and deliver it to Phoenix Art Museum on time for the October Sale.

Jody and his wife Monica, along with their son John, attended the weekend of Sale events as a tribute to Beeler and his lifelong work. CAA honored Beeler's life, history and art at a panel discussion at the Mix 'n Mingle event

Sugar for the Trail, Joe Beeler, 2006, Bronze, ed. 5/45, 19.5" x 13" x 10.5"



CA NEWS



The 2006 and 2007 CAA Board Members

CAA Officers Installed for 2007
Wayne Baize will take over the reigns from current CAA president John Moyers in 2007 to lead the group in its 42nd year.

Joining Baize in 2007 are **Bill Nebeker** as Vice President and **Gary Niblett** as a new board member. **T.D. Kelsey** and **John Moyers** will remain on the board for 2007.

Herb Mignery to Sculpt Scottsdale Monument

CAA member **Herb Mignery** was selected by the City of Scottsdale Public Art Board (SPA) — along with one other artist — to create a proposal for a significant monument planned for downtown Scottsdale. The planned monument, a sculpture of a horse and rider, is intended to capture the spirit and activity of the pony express ride enacted by Arizona's very own Hashknife Pony Express each year.

The SPA Board invited the public to view the proposals, which included clay models and artists' statements, in early November. The volunteer selection panel then met on Nov. 7 to decide which of the two artists would be commissioned for the monument. Herb Mignery was awarded the monument and will begin working on it shortly.

The larger-than-life monument will be installed at the Marshall Way cul-de-sac just north of the Arizona Canal in Scottsdale in February 2008.

Smithsonian CultureFest Features 5 CAA Members

Five CAA members participated in Smithsonian CultureFest 2006 in Prescott at the Phippen Museum on Nov. 10 and 11. **Wayne Baize, John Coleman, Bill Nebeker, Bill Owen and Dave Powell** were on hand for a panel discussion at the museum that focused on the history and culture of the organization with a view towards the next decade of CAA influence in the art world.

In addition to hosting CultureFest, the Phippen Museum also features CAA in its current exhibit, Friends of the Phippen Museum Host the Cowboy Artists of America. This exhibit runs from Oct. 14 through Feb. 11, 2007 and features works by members of Cowboy Artists of America on loan from collectors.

The Smithsonian CultureFest 2006 highlighted Arizona's cultural treasures brought to life through demonstrations, talks, tours, concerts, events and more.

POSTERS and CATALOGS
STILL AVAILABLE!

To purchase a catalog or poster from the 41st Annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale & Exhibition, call Kelly Whitton at (602)307-2007.

SAVE the DATE

42nd Annual Cowboy Artists of America Sale & Exhibition

at Phoenix Art Museum

Sale Weekend: Oct. 19 – 20, 2007 • Exhibition: Oct. 20 – Nov. 18, 2007