

"ART WITH CONVICTION"
AT THE ARTISTS' CO-OP GALLERY
30 EAST BEAU ST., WASHINGTON, PA 15301
7 TO 9 PM APRIL 10, 2009

Exhibit and sale continue through May 5



Above: A painting by an SCI Fayette inmate.

The Artists' Co-op Gallery of Washington starting April 10 will hold a special exhibit of inmate art from the inmate population of SCI Fayette. The work for "Art with Conviction" has been selected for the exhibition and sale by the art instructor James Winegar. The art program at SCI Fayette is part of the activities program at the maximum security facility.

Many of the inmates have significant talents and have worked very diligently to enhance their abilities. Within the prison the inmates who participate in the art activities have earned the privilege to take part in the program.

The inmate artists have expressed that doing their art is a very positive element of their lives while under incarceration. Although the art program is not formatted as art therapy, many of the men have recognized that through their self-expression and the process of doing art they hone their skills of problem solving and creative and positive thinking.

A broad variety of work will be for sale. Drawing in pencil, colored pencil, pastels, ink, and charcoal will be represented. Paintings in acrylic, watercolor and mixed media also will be featured.

The inmate artists display a variety of influences in their subject matter. There is a strong interest in nature and animals, with landscapes well represented. The urban environment is a part of the imagery with graffiti design and tattoo art playing a role.

Proceeds from purchases will go back to the inmates with 10 reserved for the Inmate General Welfare Fund. In some cases, a portion of the purchase will be dedicated to paying inmates' obligations in terms of judgments that may have been assessed against them.

Join us for "Art with Conviction" in the Artists' Co-op Gallery in the Washington Trust Building, 30 E. Beau St., Washington, PA 15301. Call 724-229-0365.