

The Wichita International Salon of Photography

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE WICHITA PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

WICHITA, KANSAS

220 So. Holyoke Ave.,
June 21, 1945.

Dear Laura:

A lot of water has gone over the dam since I wrote you a few days ago, and had I known then all I know now, I should have held up the letter, and gotten every thing told at one time;

Carl and Fern DeVore have been planning for some time on going to Colo. and only a couple of days ago, Carl asked us why we didn't plan on going along with them; Quick, (before we had time to think of anything to interfere) we said we surely would like to go; We just couldn't go alone this year, but by sharing with them, we can manage nicely. We are leaving on the 3rd of July, returning the 15th; short trip, but one can burn up a lot of film in 12 days. We are trying to get cabins at Bowles Ranch, where we have always gone before, near Meredith,... hope we will have no difficulty, altho I have my fingers crossed. Since Carl doesn't want to go thru any more resort towns than is necessary, we will probably not go thru the Springs, altho he may change his mind, and return that way; he felt there was a chance the OPA might be watching the tourists this summer. If we do go thru there either way, surely would like to see you, if at all possible; Where will you be, in case we do want to get in touch with you? I will drop you a card from Meredith anyway, regardless.

Planning to get away, and realizing that time is getting short, and that summer is well upon us, the committee has gotten active on talking jury for next salon; This is therefore the main reason for this letter; we are very anxious to have you back on our jury next spring (or should I say winter?) we will have the judging the 1st or 2nd week-end in February, and I am wondering if you can come, if you care to come and serve here again; We will pay all of your expenses of course, and do not believe you would have trouble in getting reservations, do you? I hesitated about asking you for this winter, knowing that you had planned the Yucatan trip, then after thinking it over, decided that you would not be there too long anyway, and that even if you went thru with those plans, still you might be able to come here, and make plans accordingly, by knowing this far ahead. We are not sure yet who we will be able to get to serve here; We would like to get a Chicago man, and for that reason we are planning on having our judging just a week or so later than Chicago, so that any one serving here, could be in Chicago for their judging too.

I have made some preliminary inquiries regarding possibilities of judges; and have been informed that Floyd B. Evans, was an artist before he took up photog ... and he does make nice prints; I understand he ~~wixx~~ is well liked on the West Coast, having judged out there some, and he judged in Chicago 2 or 3 years ago. They say he has a likeable personality; I am not sure about him yet, but I am contacting him, as I understand he goes thru here occasionally; his mother lives in Chicago, and possibly he has other business East; I do not know; This is the only way we would be able to have him, as we could not raise enough money to pay expenses from Calif. We are undecided about the 3rd person yet, but it may be a Chicago man.

By the way, Jack Peabody told me that when you were in Chicago, that Anne Dewey was out, and that you met her. May I ask your impression of her? She has done some local judging in Chicago, and was on the St. Louis Jury two years; this does not mean too much, of course. I understand she has a nice personality, and what prints I have seen of hers, seemed to me to be rather nice prints,...Were you with her long enough to gain an impression of her, or her ability; I am not asking this, with the idea of having her serve on the jury with you this year, but since we ~~xxxx~~ might consider her some time, am just wondering..... Several have told me she has a fine personality, and is a good judge, but still I would like your opinion if you care to give it to me.

There are much better photographers in Chicago than Anne Dewey, I am sure, but many are not available for jury service; They tell me that Harry Shigeta is one of the best photographers there, and he has served on some juries, but he is an American Jap; The Gov't took all his cameras or made him sell his business, or something to that effect; however we could not consider him here, likeable as they say he is, until this war is over, and people have forgotten their prejudices.

I wish that Ansel Adams were closer and available; I understand he got around \$ 250 at the least for his appearance in Chicago last year, and that is more than we could scrape up for all 3 jurors... Chicago has an unlimited amount of money, which we do not have.

I ran down town this A.M. couldn't find a thing I went after; came home and canned 4 pts of beans out of my garden; washed kitchen burtains, and would like to iron them yet, but don't know whether my ambition will hold out or not.

If you should be delayed in getting back to the Springs, and do not get this letter until near time that we are going away, just send it on to this address anyway, and the folks looking after our mail will forward it to us; When I know for sure about reservations, at Bowles, I will drop you a card, anyway, and let you know where to get in touch with me. *at any rate please answer this just as soon as possible-*

In closing, I sincerely hope that you can see your way to coming back here in February to help us out; What would a Wichita Salon be without Laura ???? Will be anxious to hear from you, before you get away to New Mexico, decided if I waited about writing you any longer, that you might go to New México, and I would have a hard time getting in touch with you.

As ever.

Shaw