

## **ON THE RIVERSIDE INN WORKSHOP, CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS, PA**

This workshop is not considered an outdoor (on location) workshop. Although demo's are occasionally done outdoors in the vicinity of the Inn, most are done indoors. And, although some students often find places to paint outdoors, most work indoors from photos and/or sketches of their own choosing.

Also, at present, the room we work in is not large, and workspace is often tight, but it has been adequate. However, even with this disadvantage, this has been a very popular workshop over the fourteen years that I have been involved in it, although a great deal of its popularity is due to the atmosphere of the Inn itself. Because of space limitations, we must limit enrollment to 15 students, and it is often filled.

The workshop will begin with a demonstration on Friday evening, beginning at about 7:30. Students will work all day Saturday. A demonstration will be presented on Sunday morning, after which students will work during the rest of the day. Group critiques will take place on Saturday and Sunday at the end of each workday. I will be on hand during the entire period of the workshop. Each student will receive personal attention.

The Riverside Inn is a large, sprawling country hotel, more than 100 years old, rehabilitated over the last 30 years by a beautiful, friendly, energetic couple. It has about 70 rooms, furnished with antique furniture, private baths, no in-room phones or TV's and authentic saggy floors. It has a wonderful dining room, great food, and a very friendly and accommodating staff. All meals and room accommodations are included in the price of the workshop. The Inn is a popular spot for wedding receptions and other large parties on weekends held in its ballroom. Also, a popular dinner theatre is held every weekend in a large dining area on the lower level. So, the weekend atmosphere is usually festive. Non-painting spouses and friends often accompany students and spend the weekend just relaxing and reading on the spacious porch, warm weather permitting, or next to the fireplace in the comfortable back lobby. The staff can also help with golfing arrangements at the nearby Riverside Golf Course. And like other parts of the country, Western PA has its share of antiques stores and historic exhibitions for those interested in that kind of activity.



Although I'm constantly apologizing for our space problem, most students manage to ignore it and produce some commendable work and keep returning for more of the same.

2009 workshop dates are: May 15-17 and Sept 25-27.