



March 2024 Newsletter

President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hi All,

We are on the verge of Spring! I'm so ready to play in the dirt...My son in law checked the lilac bushes and reported they have tiny little green tips!

Hope everyone is healthy and happy and doing well. It's so good to see everyone at our monthly meetings, we even have a few new faces now. Welcome to our new members, Debbie Metzner, Kathy Mc Allister, Dubraska Fox, Janice Kone and our old friend Kate Dowd. Glad to have you all in our little group.

It's St. Patrick's Day Weekend! Are you wearing green to our meeting on the 16th? You know what happens if you don't..... Green or not, we'll be glad to see you at Marilyn's on Saturday at 10: am. Look for info and supply list for the wine glass I'll be teaching that day further in this newsletter.

See you then,

Ginny

Program Report-Ginny Sparlin

Saturday March 16 painting project at our monthly meeting:

We have wine glasses to paint or you can bring your own if you have a specific size or kind of wine glass you'd prefer.

You will need your regular acrylic supplies: water container, paper towels, what you normally use.

Also bring:

Tiny brushes: skinny liner, tiny spotter, if you have a tiny flat or filbert,
Stylus: two or three different sizes if you have them and scotch tape

We'll be using multi surface acrylic paint. Most of mine are Folk Art brand. Look through your paint bottles, if you have any multi surface paint bring it. If you're unsure look on the back of the bottle, if it's multi surface it will give instructions on how to bake it on once the paint is dry.

You could also use Pebeo brand if you have them.

If you have any questions call me: Ginny Sparlin 303-408-0414

See you soon!

Sunshine Report- Karon Sorensen

We have 3 Birthdays to celebrate in March, best wishes to all!



March 7 Nan Auhll
March 18 Paula Leopold
March 31 Char Bucher

Hospitality Report-Andrene Schmelzer

For our February meeting Linda and Melinda provided snacks. Our hostess Marilyn provided beverages. Thanks to all of you.

For our March meeting Dubraska has offered to bring something sweet and Andrene will bring something else.

Please consider signing up for treats in April.

Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes

DecoArt... Some of you have heard DecoArt is introducing 8 new colors for 2024 soon. If you are interested in pre-ordering there are two ways to do this.

Pinecraft Inc ... <https://pinecraftinc.com/products/americana-acrylic-paint-2024-colors>

CD Wood... <https://www.cdwood.com/products/2024-decoart-americana-new-color-set-of-8-bottles-preorder>

UPDATE... they are shipping now.

Change size of pattern: To increase your pattern divide larger number by smaller number. To decrease divide smaller number by larger number. So simple and gets the job done 'they' say. :)

Stencils... here is another stencil site you may find what you are looking for.

<https://www.thestencilsmith.com/>

CD Wood... You can find just about anything you are looking for on Chris Haughey's website. Customer service is great! New patterns weekly, demo videos often on Facebook, and sales!

<https://www.cdwood.com/>

Miniatures... If you are into dollhouses, you will love seeing what Nadeen Masters is doing to decorate her houses! Even if you are not in to this you will love seeing what Nadeen does. This is a new website for Nadeen who is a very talented lady.

<https://neadeenmasters.com/>

France Quirion... I have probably already mentioned this designer's patterns before because I love her work. Take a look when you have time.

<https://www.etsy.com/ca/shop/FranceQuirion>

Free pattern... Need a pattern for Easter? DecoArt has a cute Easter free pattern on their website by Cindy Mann Vitale.

<https://shop.decoart.com/blog/decorative-easter-decor/>

Chris Thornton... I can't suggest a free Easter pattern without mentioning Chris has a wonderful one on her website under Fun and Free.

<https://christhorntondesigns.com/>

Books to Read... Sybil Johnson has written several books with art involved and even a tole shop! There are several in the series and I heard they are all a good read. You need to go to Amazon and enter her name because the link is a mile long!

Tracy Moreau...

Did you Know

The Mona Lisa is perhaps the most visited painting in the world and is likely the most famous

portrait ever painted – the Mona Lisa. Created by Leonardo da Vinci at the start of the 16th century, sees more than 10 million visitors each year and is valued at well over \$660 million.

Painting Tip:

Mixed Media? what's the attraction to mixed media??

Lemme tell ya... Mixed media is, for all intents and purposes, a do whatever you want with whatever you want on whatever you want, art form.

It is highly cathartic, it can be as structured or unstructured as you choose, the only limitations are those imposed on you by the materials you use and your own inhibitions. It can be as elaborate or as simple as you choose, it can be as light and colorful or dark and mysterious as you choose. It can be a reflection of your mood or an illustration of what you wish to see in the world. It is a chance to choose your art materials from everything around you, from textiles and paper to metals and wood, plastic or glass, whatever your choice may be. The most important medium to use in Mixed media.....CHOOSE. You CHOOSE. The options open to you are unlimited colors, unlimited surfaces and subjects, unlimited ways to express what you think, feel, want. ...UNLIMITED.

You cannot break the rules in Mixed Media... there aren't any.

Painting Tip:

I think we all have that ONE medium or product, that never seems to work for us, and a friend that says " Oh It NEVER Fails for me!" Does any of this sound familiar? Let me guess....

CRACKLE MEDIUMS!! I LOVE crackle mediums! and NONE of them fail for me.... because I know the secrets.

DECO ART AMERICANA WEATHERED WOOD is the most commonly used among us decorative painters, so let's start with that.

1. Generous EVEN coat of the medium on a Raw, Stained or Painted surface. (The thicker it is the bigger the Cracks...but there is such thing as too much)
2. Let it dry until it's Just dry. (even a little tacky is fine) But not over night! 2.or 3 hrs. is usually enough.
3. Apply the top coat of paint, and this is the fun part. Use a sponge, a brush, or a roller, but whatever you use... Be generous. Just get it on and don't go over where you have already been. (I Love sponges for this part, because it is easy to keep the top coat uniform.) The Cracks will begin to appear immediately. As it continues to dry, the more pronounced the cracks will become
4. LEAVE IT ALONE! Give the crackle 24 hrs. to dry fully before you do anything over it. Otherwise your pretty paint work over top will crack too.(that is fine if it's what you want, but nearly impossible to get it uniform)

Note: If you use a Sponge or a roller , you will get a crazed effect (the cracks run in all directions) If you use a brush, the cracks follow the direction of the brush strokes.

TIP: DON'T try to force dry crackle medium... it will do weird things and you may not like it...Just let it air dry for the best results.

If Crackle is something you only use once in a while...Check your jar from time to time , for Crystals in the bottom of the jar.. if you find them, the medium is likely too old and will be unreliable at best.

Tracy adds new designs all the time. Also, a discount code appears at the top of her home page. I have found her shipping is very, very reasonable.

<https://tracymoreau.net/>

Decorative Painters Academy... Several newer classes and videos have been added recently. Be sure and check this out.

<https://decorativepaintersacademy.com/>

Happy Painting,
Melinda

Newsletter Compiler-Verlene Siska

<https://rockymountainhiartists.com>