

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HI CHAPTER**  
*of the Society of Decorative Painters*  
**February 2015 Newsletter**  
**verlene.siska@gmail.com**  
Website: <http://RockyMountainHiArtists.com>

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**Marilyn Corners' President's Report February 2015**

Hi Ladies and our one Gentleman,

HAPPY VALENTINES!! I hope each of you receives at least one fun and/or mushy Valentine this week. With our Granddaughter Sailor, we are neck deep in making Valentines for each person in her class, as well as decorating a box in which she will receive her Valentines! Remember doing this as a child? That was always such fun.

I hope each one of you loved painting the cats or pigs on your shirt at our meeting last month. Thank you Ginny for presenting that fun class to us.....You are just the BEST!

This month, as you all know, our meeting is the Bingo Party. Remember to bring painting supplies for which you no longer have a need, to give away as prizes. Remember....."One man's trash is another man's Treasure" so to speak.

This annual Bingo Party is always a great, fun night with Nancy Caldwell calling the game. Have you linked onto the SDP website to check out the "Gear Up For Art" Conference Catalog? There are pages and pages of fabulous classes, special events and programs which cover the gamut..... from Colored Pencil, Pencil/Charcoal, Watercolor, Oils, and Acrylics, to Theory. You have an opportunity to study with Teachers from across the nation, plus Argentina and Mexico (translators furnished). The atmosphere at

Conference is simply extraordinary, just to be in the midst of hundreds of like-minded women (and some men) who share our love of Decorative Painting is an exciting and glorious experience. It is a very worthwhile week in which you will make friends, make memories and learn oodles. Come along and join us to "Gear Up For Art". Check it out!!

Have a lovely week and I look forward to seeing you on the 16th.

Fondly,

Marilyn

### **Ginny Sparlin - 1st Vice President/Program Chairman's Report**

Friends!!

Please remember to gather up all your extra painting supplies that are laying around taking up space and bring them to the Bingo game at the February general meeting. I'm talking about books, magazines, pattern packets. If you've given up on oil painting, donate some of your old supplies. Someone may be longing to try oil painting, and be glad to have them. If you have an overage of brushes or paints, donate them. Wood or metal pieces, paper mache, anything you bought and gave up on using. If you sort out all the old stuff you haven't gotten to and donate it to the Bingo, think of all the room you'll have to fill with new wonderful things to paint on.....See you Monday night February 16, 6:30pm.

The March general meeting will be here before you know it!! Do you have your Easter egg painted yet?? Remember the March meeting is our egg-exchange(just like the ornament exchange at the November meeting, but with eggs...) Paint/decorate an egg, any size, wood, china, real, whatever. Sign your creation, wrap it and bring it to the March 16 meeting at 6:30pm. It's such fun to see all the different eggs, but you have to bring one to get one! We'll also be decorating Slovakian spice cookies with Verlene Siska. This meeting is the one before Easter, so you'll be able to display your fancy new egg for the holiday, and you'll have time to bake up several batches of those cookies and decorate them in time for Easter, Too!! See you soon. Ginny Sparlin, [303-693-0771](tel:303-693-0771)

### **Elissa McAlear - Secretary's Minutes**

General Meeting, Monday, January 19, 2015  
Called to order at 6:34 PM by President Marilyn Corners.

Roll call sign-in was passed around.

Secretary Elissa McAlear - read the Minutes of the November 17, 2014 meeting and they were approved as read.

Treasurer Pat Greene (absent)- Treasurer's Proposed 2015 Budget of \$6,700 was unanimously adopted after Sherry Flowers moved for acceptance and it was seconded by Char Bucher.

Vice President Ginny Sparlin will teach T- Shirt painting with cats or pigs. She also pointed out that we'll play Bingo at the February meeting, so plan to bring your painting related items

for the prizes. The March program will be the Egg-exchange which is wrapped with your name in the package. The rest of the program schedule will be in the Booklet. Watch the Newsletter for details.

Kathy Beck - Membership is now at 42. Welcome new members! The Roster Booklet is under construction to be available for the February meeting.

Newsletter by Verlene Siska has a February 8th deadline for article submissions. You may send articles via email earlier to her.

Melinda Barnes had information on the June 13 & 14th seminar with Chris Thornton. There are 4 seats left for the Ornament day and several for the multi media day. This is being co-sponsored with the High Plains Artists at the Littleton Board of Education building. Class fees" \$70/2 days, \$40/member for one day; maximum of 25.

Char Bucher had information about Judy Patti's seminar this coming Saturday at her studio on South Broadway. It is full. There will be a \$5 fee for the prepared paper. The class fee is \$40 for Chapter members, \$50 for non-members.

Janet Nunn will give a 2 day watercolor seminar April 24th & 25th at Garden Plaza. The fee is \$50/day or \$90/both days. Lunch cost in included. Projects will be presented shortly.

Sherry Flowers presented Ways & Means ideas including Note cards, gift tags or all-occasion bags with member's artwork. A number of ideas are under consideration.

Linda Bierman - Publicity - has set February 1st for getting her committee together with the details for the 40th Anniversary Cookbook. She would like those who bring refreshments to our meetings to also bring the recipe for inclusion in the cookbook. She also will be requesting more recipes and artwork for the dividers. Her goal is July 1st for submission to the printer so that we can have them available by the September Luncheon and Art Show. The cost will be presented to the Board soon.

Sheri Sutton thanked those who brought refreshments. Tonight's were brought by Iris, Melinda, Catherine and Deb. February names are Kit, Judy, Ginny and Verllene. She is passing around a sign-up sheet and will remind us as our turn approaches.

New nametags were made by Deb, Sheri, Sherry, Nancy and Jody - Beautiful and nicely done ladies!

Art Show - watch for an added category. The Entry Form and Rules will be in the Roster Booklet. Be painting those beautiful projects for entering in September!

Nancy Glassman - Sunshine would suggest a Card Shower for Kathy Kula who is having a difficult time recovering from knee replacement. Also, a card to Card whose husband, Dwayne, is going thru a tough time with his knee surgery.

Iris Luckel has the dates set up for our meetings and seminars at Garden Plaza. Melinda Barnes has updated the Website, so be sure to check it out for news, pictures, seminars and events! <[www.rockymountainhiartists.com](http://www.rockymountainhiartists.com)> . Such a super fun site!!

New Business:

Marilyn attended the national board meeting at the Craft & Hobby Association (CHA) convention in Anaheim California. It was a marvelous and successful trip meeting many manufacturers, designers and businesses. CHA has been contracted to handle the business of the Society, This is an exciting, worthwhile and stimulating partnership that should benefit the Society. Many of the CHA members did not know of our group until the attendance at the convention which is closed to the public

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Elissa McAlear, Recording Secretary

## **Melinda Barnes – Website Manager**

### **Tole Chatter**

I am very excited to tell you about another new book! Della Wetterman created a new book called "Celebrate Christmas with Della and Friends". The book will be available at the Creative Painting Vegas show. I have seen the proof for the book and it is fabulous and makes me want to paint! The contributing designers in this book are Lynne Andrews, Maxine Thomas, Shara Reiner, Rosemary West, Jane Allen and of course Della... what a lineup of talented ladies! The book contains some large pieces and many ornaments. Some of the ornaments can be painted on wood cutouts and will be available from Della, but not sure we can accomplish that for her website before Vegas. The book can be pre-ordered now on her website...

<http://dellaandcompany.com>

DecoArt added several new colors for 2015. You can read the list of new colors in each product line using this link. [http://decoart.com/blog/article/88/2015\\_color\\_additions](http://decoart.com/blog/article/88/2015_color_additions)

DecoArt Americana recently discontinued the following 34 colors for 2015:

Taffy Cream, Crimson Tide, Mauve, Gooseberry, Raspberry, Spice Pink, Brandy Wine, Colonial Green, Cool Neutral, Iron Oxide, Medium Flesh, Ice Blue, Antique Rose, Antique Teal, Antique Mauve, Green Mist, French Vanilla, Light French Blue, Violet Haze, Dried Basil Green, Limeade, Soft Blue, Admiral Blue, Gingerbread, Traditional Raw Umber, Traditional Raw Sienna, Soft Lilac, Butter, Blue Haze Light, Autumn Red, Slate Green, Green Tea, Butterscotch, Purple Wave.

DecoArt updated their color mixing chart for our convenience listing the discontinued colors. The link is long, hopefully you can copy/paste it in your browser. You can bookmark the web page or print out the PDF so you can keep it handy to use in the future.

[http://decoart.com/resources/Americana\\_Discontinued\\_Colors\\_And\\_Mixing\\_Chart.pdf](http://decoart.com/resources/Americana_Discontinued_Colors_And_Mixing_Chart.pdf)

DecoArt's Americana line still offers 223 acrylic colors, while Delta only offers 212 and FolkArt has 205... not to mention how much better their paint is! Oops... that's my humble opinion. \*grin\*

Speaking of DecoArt they have a new product called Traditions Cork Sealer. In addition to cork, this sealer will work on a multitude of porous surfaces including burlap. Apply a liberal coat of the sealer and let dry 24 hours and then apply a second coat to ensure sealing (don't use a hairdryer to speed up the process). Patty Rawlinson is using this product for a line of cork coasters she designed. She is sealing the coasters with 2 coats of

Cork Sealer and has a line of stencils to go with each cork design. The new product line is very pretty and would be a quick project you could make for gifts or for yourself. Here is the link for the new product line on Patty's website.

<https://creativeartslifestyle.com/index.php/projects/coasters.html>

If you missed Elissa mentioning the **UStream Video Channel** at the last meeting I will post the link here for you. There are a few videos by **Janet Nunn** about the Dr. Martin's Hydrus Fine Art Liquid Lightfast Watercolors. Unfortunately there were some technical difficulties when the butterfly video was shot, but it will be presented again in the near future. There are other videos you can watch now. The Dr. Ph Martin paints are made in Golden, Colorado! Check out UStream here...

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/dr-ph-martin-s>

Here is another great artist's website Elissa found. **Artists Network University...** Worth checking this one out as well. Thank you Elissa!

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

**Floating Color:** This article was written by Phyllis several years ago, but I thought it would apply today. The article below is Part I of II with permission.

Helpful Tips on Floating Color  
By Phyllis Tilford, CDA ©2003

**FLOATING COLOR:** This is a general term for the technique of shading (adding a shadow, or darker color,) or highlighting, (adding lighter color) and means it is done with a brush that has been side loaded into paint. Blending this brush properly after side loading the color is extremely important to allow the color(s) to spread smoothly through the bristles, keeping the heavier color on the loaded side of the brush and allowing the color to fade out to no color on the other side of the brush. You do not want to see a color line on the surface, but a gradual gradation of color, on one side, to just clear water on the other side. If you're really new at decorative painting, practicing this on a painted piece of wood or painted matte or poster board will be extremely helpful to you. Below are a few tips to help you not only float color better, but good basics for all brushes.

#### 1. CLEANING THE BRUSH:

I recommend that you purchase a square sectioned brush basin, with ribs on the bottom of one section. Add just enough water in this section to go about ½" above the ribs. The ribbed bottom really helps pull the paint out of the brush. Don't jab the bristles onto the ribs; angle the brush and place the ferrule on the ribs allowing the bristles to follow and gently swish the back and front side of the brush across them. Swishing your brush around in a bowl of water will not remove the built up paint in the ferrule, and when floating color, if this part of the brush is not clean, paint will bleed into your floated area.

#### 2. BLOTTING THE BRUSH:

Keep soft, thick, absorbent paper towels for this. Fold one into fourths and place it in front of your water basin. After cleaning the brush, just lay the entire brush flat, ferrule and all, on the paper towel so the shine on the bristles barely disappears. You need a fair amount of water in the bristles in order to float color. A good note to remember here is, you can't float on a dry beach; you need to go into the water for that!

### 3. LOADING THE BRUSH:

Always keep fresh paint on the palette for floating color and place it at the top of the palette so you have plenty of room to blend below it. After wetting the brush, first stroke it on the palette to regain a good sharp edge. Angle the brush just a bit and apply the left rounded edge of a filbert brush, or the corner of the flat brush with paint. It should not go more than halfway through the brush.

### 4. BLENDING COLOR THROUGH THE BRUSH:

Stroke this brush on a clean area of the wax palette, then moving in a vertical direction, pull it towards you two or three times, only about 1" in distance using a good amount of pressure, then away from you once or twice on the back side of the brush. Be sure to keep the direction of the blending path vertical, don't curve the bristles and don't allow the clean side of the brush to go into the painted blending path.

### 5. HOLDING THE BRUSH

properly is as important as blending it. Position your fingers and hold it as close to the ferrule as you can. The brush handle should be straight up ---not laying down at an angle. If the brush handle is not straight up, full pressure cannot be applied while blending.

### 6. FIND YOUR ANCHOR!

In order to blend properly, with the right pressure, you need an anchor. Try writing your name with a pen, without touching the paper with your hand...hard to do, huh? Same principle here...an anchor will give you better leverage and better brush control. This will be awkward at first if you've never done it, but you will definitely blend better with an anchor, than without one! Part II next month.

~ Phyllis Tilford, CDA

I will be going to the Creative Painting Convention in Vegas the last week of February. I will share lots of news in the art world in next month's article.

Happy Painting,  
Melinda

## Website

Be sure and check our website for the most recent information concerning chapter events and photos.

<http://rockymountainartists.com>

## Chris Thornton-Deason Seminar

Chris will be teaching for us June 13 and 14 in 2015! Chris send more photos of the seminar projects. Chris will be teaching two projects per day Saturday and Sunday. You can see all the projects on our website now.

Registration opened last month for Chris' seminar. The Sunday Snowman Ornament class is now full. I am starting a waiting list, so if you are interested don't delay letting me know so your name is at the top of the list. There are 7 seats left on Saturday... again if you are interested in that class let me know ASAP so you won't be disappointed.

The price for the seminar:

\$40.00 for members and \$50.00 for non-members per day

\$70.00 for members and \$90.00 non-members for both days

Don't miss this opportunity and sign-up today!

Melinda

Travel Teacher Seminar Chair

## **Sherry Flowers – Ways and Means Committee**

Hello Rocky Mountain Hi Artists

We're making progress ....at January's meeting I shared ideas on raising money for our chapter. I'm in the process of securing a table in the Heather Gardens Spring and Fall Craft Shows. Thanks to Esther Haines and Kit Addington for providing Heather Gardens contact information and support in working through the details. The promoter of the show will confirm with me on March 2nd whether we have a table in the Spring show (April 25th 9-4 p.m.). With that said I'm excited to ask everyone to participate....so let the painting begin or let the creative juices flow on other craft worthy items. Ideas that have been discussed by the board are notecards (bundled in packs of five), hand stamped cards (single or bundled), coasters, trivets, ornaments, jewelry, baked goods, etc. Some of you may have pieces of art you would like to sell, this will be a good venue, if you want to donate them.

**REMINDER: DUE TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF COPY RIGHT INFRINGEMENT, ITEMS FOR SALE MUST HAVE PERMISSION FROM THE DESIGNER OR BE YOUR ORIGINAL.**

If you choose to contribute to the craft show it is considered a donation. The show is an avenue to raise money for our chapter.

With all the talent in this group I hope to see a contribution from everyone. However, this is a volunteer effort.....so no pressure.

Please let me know if you plan to participate, so we can have an inventory of the items being contributed.

Ways and Means Chair

Sherry Flowers [sflowers@sprynet.com](mailto:sflowers@sprynet.com) (303) 791-3189 (home) (303) 725-7912 (cell)

## **Sheri Sutton –Hospitality**

Thanks very much to Melinda, Catherine, Iris and Deb for the tasty treats provided at our January meeting. It was such a tempting assortment of goodies, and they were a valuable source of energy for our t-shirt painting project.

We're sorry that the hot water pot malfunctioned. It wasn't the best start to the year, and we appreciate your ingenuity in dipping water for tea. A new pot is planned for February, so there should be no challenges going forward.

Verlene, Judy, Nancy and Kit have offered to provide the refreshments for our January meeting. In advance, thank you.

## Newsletter Editor-Verlene Siska

Thank you for all who contributed to this newsletter. Please sure to take a peek at the ads we have this month.

Please send corrections [verlene.siska@gmail.com](mailto:verlene.siska@gmail.com).

Please put newsletter' on the subject line.

Corrections will be published on our website. <http://RockyMountainHiArtists.com>



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