



September 2023 Newsletter

President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hi Everyone,

Well Summer is winding down, but I'm hoping for a long Fall.... Don't you love it when the leaves have time to all change into their fall colors? I love to hit Nic's Garden center in Aurora this time of year when they're roasting chili peppers, smells like Santa Fe!

We're coming up on the end of the year, Christmas will be here before you know it! (Sorry) We will have an all-day paint in on September 23, from 10: to 4: at the Eloise May Library on Parker Road in Aurora. The subject is a snowman by Lynne Andrews called "Seasons Greetings" and it's really cute. I've sent you all the pattern packet and would love it if you can come to the paint in. (Bring your lunch or forage in the area).

For the September 18 Monday evening meeting we'll be stamping leaves onto whatever item you'd like to decorate. I'm including a couple of pictures of items I've stamped; a shirt an apron and a slate tile. I'll also include instructions for prep for the meeting.

Hope to see you all there!

Ginny Sparlin



Program Report-Ginny Sparlin

Monday September 18 meeting.

Monday evening at our September monthly meeting we'll be stamping leaves on whatever surface you'd like to decorate. This can be a hard surface, like a wooden welcome plaque or a slate or it can be a fabric surface like an apron or T-shirt. You choose! If you're bringing a fabric item, be sure to launder it (**NO** Fabric softener) before the meeting, and iron out any wrinkles. If you're bringing a shirt, it would help if you have a T-shirt board to slip up inside the shirt or just a large piece of cardboard to put up into the shirt for support while you work on it. We'll have paint, just bring your regular supplies, water container, paper towels, etc. And bring fresh leaves to use to print. The leaves should be flat not ruffly. You'll need a flat brush size 12 up to 1/2 inch. And a 3 or 4 foam plates. There are a couple pictures in this newsletter of things I've stamped leaves onto so you can see how pretty they come out. If you're painting on a hard surface, be sure to seal and base coat in a color the leaves will show up on. See you at the meeting!

Ginny



Hospitality Report-Andrene Schmelzer

I want to thank everyone for the wonderful assortment of goodies brought to the August luau at Marilyn's.

I think Marilyn was very gracious to open up her home all summer for these special classes.

Now onto our regular meetings at Garden Plaza. I have two volunteers bringing treats to our September meeting. Verlene has offered to bring a fruit tray and Linda will bring something savory.

Sunshine Report- Karon Sorensen

We have no September birthdays.

Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes

The Origins of Halloween Traditions. Since Fall is almost here (yippppeeee) I thought you all might find this article interesting. I found the article and link in the Painting World Magazine newsletter.

<https://blogs.loc.gov/headlinesandheroes/2021/10/the-origins-of-halloween-traditions/>

DecoArt Fall Pattern... Here is a free pumpkin pattern designed by Sandy LaFlore. Looks like fun and can be painted with our ideas added too.

<https://shop.decoart.com/blog/pumpkin-door-hanger-fall-diy/>

Painting World Magazine... Also published a free Halloween pattern from Debb Forshey-Choma. Three ornaments with lots of technique step-by-steps.

<https://www.paintingworldmag.com/post/mystical-lights-of-the-night>

Cindy Moore, Dots and Moore... Cindy has some nice Fall and Christmas patterns on her website. She is teaching a "Fall Colors" on the Creative Innovations in Painting's Facebook Group page October 26th. The epacket for \$8.00 or the printed pattern for \$10.00

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

Marika Moretti... has a new Halloween pumpkin design in her Etsy shop. It is fabulous!

<https://www.etsy.com/uk/listing/1521801696/country-painting-epattern-happy>

DecoArt announced the 2023-2024 DecoArt Creative Advisory Council Members: Jen Rizzo, Tamara Bennett, Ophelia Staton, Carolyn Ballantine, Lisbeth Stull, Lonna Lamb, Tracy Moreau, and Sandy McTier.

Silver Brush Limited.. On their website you can find many informative videos and information.

<https://www.silverbrush.com/silverbrushcaretips.html>

Tracy Moreau...

PAINTING TIP:

Do your texture mediums, modelling paste, etc keep drying out???

Cut a small piece of Shop towel or sponge and moisten it with distilled water (moist not dripping). Drop it into the jar and seal tightly. the additional moisture will keep your mediums soft and workable without thinning them. Change it every time you open the jar.

Keeping the edges of the jars and the threads of the lids clean as well, will help the jars seal tightly.

Painting Tip:

Sealing surfaces is always a hot point. I usually seal **NEW wood** surfaces with All-purpose sealer or Decoart Decoupage. I use a seal and first base coat trick that is a great time saver!! I mix All-purpose sealer, or Decoart Decoupage with equal

amounts of my base colour. I apply it generously and smooth it out to remove brush marks. Allow it to dry well, then sand it lightly to remove any burrs or furring. Then apply a second coat of the same mixture. Let it dry well. Sand lightly once again. If another coat of the colour is need apply one coat of just the acrylic paint. I prefer to seal **MDF Surface** with a coat of Gesso, let it dry then sand lightly.

Older surfaces (reclaimed furniture, old finishes or unknown finishes) I prefer to seal with a stain blocker, usually 2 coats letting each one dry before reapplying. I then let it dry for 24 to 48 hrs before I begin painting. It is incredibly frustrating to have old stain or varnish leach colour through your hard work. **For Metal**, thoroughly clean the surface with a good grease cutting soap (dawn works great) and Hot water. Brush off any loose rust. Let it dry well. Apply two coats of DecoArts Metal Primer, letting each coat dry well before reapplying. Let it dry 24 hrs. This primer will Block rusting. Works right over Rusted surfaces.

Decoupage for backgrounds is a fast and fun way to create interest. It's also an easy way to establish a base for your colour palette, or provide a great contrast to it. With so many wonderful papers available, it is very easy to customize your work. It is very important to ensure that the paper is firmly attached to the surface, however. The preparation is as follows:

Apply a coat of Gesso to your surface, this will give you a uniform finish, if the paper tends to be a little transparent, but it will also provide a nice stable substrate for the Paper to adhere to. Apply a generous coat of DecoArt Decoupage Matt or Matt medium to the surface, Lay the paper into it, then immediately smooth the paper out. press the paper firmly into the medium, and roll with a brayer to remove any bubbles or excess medium. Wipe away any that oozes out. Let it dry thoroughly before applying a generous coat of the Decoupage Matt or Matt medium over the surface. Let it dry thoroughly before sanding the edges to remove the excess paper. Seal the entire surface and the edges with another light coat of the medium. I recommend the Decoupage Matt or Matt medium due to the finish, it provides nice tooth and is easy to paint on.

I highly recommend Decoupage Matt, and the DecoArt Media , Matt Medium. Both dry to a lovely crystal-clear Matt finish, and they dry non tacky.

Keep your **painting water** on the opposite side to your coffee cup.....just sayin.

For crisp, clean lettering...Use a metal edged ruler, while transferring to your surface, to trace the vertical and horizontal lines. A Straight, clean line is easier to follow than a crooked one. Shade the background before you begin painting the

lettering, if you go over the line, it doesn't matter... the base colour of the letters will hide it.

Did You Know... Tracy Moreau

A **mosaic** is a pattern or image made of small regular or irregular pieces of colored stone, glass or ceramic, held in place by plaster/mortar, and covering a surface. Mosaics are often used as floor and wall decoration, and were particularly popular in the Ancient Roman world. Mosaics have a long history, starting in Mesopotamia in the 3rd millennium BC. Pebble mosaics were made in Tiryns in Mycenaean Greece; mosaics with patterns and pictures became widespread in classical times, both in Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. Early Christian basilicas from the 4th century onwards were decorated with wall and ceiling mosaics. Mosaic art flourished in the Byzantine Empire from the 6th to the 15th centuries; that tradition was adopted by the Norman Kingdom of Sicily in the 12th century, by the eastern-influenced Republic of Venice, and among the Rus. Mosaic fell out of fashion in the Renaissance, though artists like Raphael continued to practice the old technique.

In the visual arts, **color theory** is the body of practical guidance for color mixing and the visual effects of a specific color combination. Color terminology based on the color wheel and its geometry separates colors into primary color, secondary color, and tertiary color. The understanding of color theory dates to antiquity. Aristotle (d. 322 BCE) and Claudius Ptolemy (d. 168 CE) already discussed which and how colors can be produced by mixing other colors. More modern approaches to color theory principles can be found in the writings of Leone Battista Alberti (c. 1435) and the notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci (c. 1490). A formalization of "color theory" began in the 18th century, initially within a partisan controversy over Isaac Newton's theory of color (*Opticks*, 1704) and the nature of primary colors.

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

<https://tracymoreau.net/>

Tracy Weinzapfel... I know some of you are art journaling fans. Tracy has taught at conventions and on Facebook. You can take a look at her website to see what she is doing.

<https://tracyweinzapfelstudios.com/>

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

<https://decorativepaintersacademy.com/>

Happy Painting,
Melinda

Newsletter Compiler-Verlene Siska

<https://rockymountainhiartists.com>