



## September 2024 Newsletter

### President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hope you all are doing well and enjoying the last few days of Summer.

Since we've had our last summer paint party last month at Marilyn's, our September 21 meeting will be back at Garden Plaza. Damon has assured me that they have completed all the repairs from their flooding episode last winter and our regular meeting room (past the front desk and down the hall) is ready for our meetings.

I'm teaching the little "Christmas Robin" by Sharon Wolf this month. If you have a surface, you'd like to paint it on bring it, just make sure you have sized the line drawing to fit on your surface. Bring your normal acrylic painting supplies; paper towels, water container, palette etc. I'm bringing paint. If you have any Americana: Winter blue, or Midnight blue please bring them. These are the background colors and we'll use more of those two colors than anything else.



## Monthly Program Report-Ginny Sparlin

- Brushes: #10 flat, #3 or 4 round, skinny liner (10/0 or 20/0),
- Deerfoot 1/4" or 1/8" if you have one, if not just a couple old beaten-up brushes, I'll bring some old ratty brushes also. There is quite a bit of stippling in this project.
- Also bring a stylus,
- white transfer paper,
- wet wipes.
- If you have star or snowflake stamps or stencils, bring them.

If you have any questions please call me, 303-693-0771

The club has paid for the patterns, and Sharon has given permission for me to teach her design. I'll have surfaces for you to paint on.



## **Hospitality Report-Andrene Schmelzer**

We want to thank the following ladies for bringing snacks to last month's paint party:

Verlene, Ginny, Karon, Catherine, Melinda, Debbie Botts, Chrissie and Marilyn.

Special thanks to Marilyn for opening up her home to us all summer.

I hope I didn't miss anyone.

Please remember if you sign up to bring something and then cannot attend to please call Andrene and let her know.

## **Local Teacher Seminar Report-Andrene Schmelzer**

Coleen Nelson will be teaching a watercolor class on September 28th, from 9am until 1pm at Judy Patti's studio.

It is an elephant on a quarter sheet of watercolor paper.

The fee is \$35.00 and includes the pattern and color photo which she will have at the class. If you do zoom, Andrene will get the pattern to you, or you can stop at the studio, 5847 So. Broadway Cir. Englewood, CO 80113 and pick up from Coleen. Call first to get a pattern 303-523-8897. You also have a photo from the newsletter to refer to.

To reserve a spot call Andrene at 720-840-1255 and give Linda Beaty a check. The studio holds 14, so if you want in person sign up early.



## Colors for our elephant watercolor class at Judy Patti art studio with Coleen Nelson on September 28th at 9:00 am

- cobalt blue
- Quin burnt orange or burnt sienna (one or the other)
- Cool and warm yellow (no cads)
  - examples of cool yellows would be Winsor yellow or lemon yellow,
  - examples of warm yellows would be new gamboge or indian yellow
- any red or opera pink

if you decide to do a different color elephant you certainly can these are just suggestions of colors Colleen would use.

For any painters that do not have these colors or are new to watercolors, Colleen will provide a palette for \$3.00 which is very reasonable. Coleen will give you a color photo at the class. She does not give an instruction sheet, so bring a notepad, to take notes. She also doesn't give a pattern. She lets you trace it before class.

Andrene has already traced one and transferred to a watercolor sheet. If you are going to be at the meeting on September 21st you are welcome to trace my pattern. I have already traced the pattern for 2 people that are coming to this class and are not members of Rocky Mountain Hi. They are Becky Coffey and Carol Burnett.

I am still waiting for a reply from Colleen on brushes recommended for this project Still no reply from Coleen, so this is my recommendation for extra supplies:

140 lb. watercolor paper 16 x 20 cold press, tape and board to tape down watercolor paper, perhaps masking fluid, paper towels, water containers to rinse brushes 2, styro plates or palette to mix watercolors.

## **Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes**

**Palette and Sawdust...** Bev Canty has announced she is retiring at the end of the year. Check out her website for her wood. I have ordered from Bev and the wood is perfect and ready to paint. Her prices are very reasonable and so is her shipping charges. Here is her comment and schedule...

"After 25 years in business, I will be closing on Dec 1, 2024. It has been a great second career and I have enjoyed creating and cutting wood for everyone!

I will continue to take orders to cut until Oct 31. After that, I will sell only stock left on hand until Dec 1.

Thanks to all who have ordered from me in the past!"

<https://paletteandsawdust.com/>

**Judy Leasure Pastel Artist...** Her work is worth your time to take a look at her website.

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

**Painting in Colored Pencil: Colorful Things by Cynthia Knox...** A beautiful book and also available in digital form.

<https://annkullberg.com/products/painting-in-colored-pencil-colorful-things-by-cynthia-knox>

**Tracy Moreau... Did you Know**

**Vincent Willem van Gogh**

30 March 1853 – 29 July 1890

Was a Dutch Post-Impressionist painter who is among the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art. In just over a decade he created approximately 2100 artworks, including around 860 oil paintings, most of them in the last two years of his life. They include landscapes, still life, portraits and self-portraits, and

are characterized by bold, symbolic colors, and dramatic, impulsive and highly expressive brushwork that contributed to the foundations of modern art. Only one of his paintings was known by name to have been sold during his lifetime.

Van Gogh's early works consisted of mostly still life and depictions of peasant laborers. In 1886, he moved to Paris, where he met members of the artistic avant-garde, including Émile Bernard and Paul Gauguin, who were seeking new paths beyond Impressionism. Frustrated in Paris and inspired by a growing spirit of artistic change and collaboration, Van Gogh moved to Arles in south of France in February 1888 with the goal of establishing an artistic retreat and commune. Once there, Van Gogh's art changed. His paintings grew brighter and he turned his attention to the natural world, depicting local olive groves, wheat fields and sunflowers.

Van Gogh became famous after his suicide, aged 37, which followed years of poverty and mental illness.

**Claude Aubriet** (c. 1665 or 1651– 3 December 1742) was a French illustrator and botanical artist. The standard author abbreviation Aubriet is used to indicate this person as the author when citing a botanical name.

He was a botanical illustrator at the Jardin du Roi in Paris. There Joseph Pitton de Tournefort (1656–1708) noticed his work and commissioned him as illustrator of his 1694 *Éléments de Botanique*. From 1700 to 1702 he accompanied Tournefort and Andreas von Gundelsheimer on an expedition to the Middle East. There he made drawings of historical sites and the region's flora. After his return to Paris, Aubriet continued his work with the botanists at the Jardin du Roi, contributing to *Les Vélins du Roi*.

In 1707 Aubriet succeeded Jean Joubert (1643–1707) as the royal botanical painter. He retired in 1735, and was succeeded by Françoise Basseporte (1701–1780), a student of his and a former collaborator. He died in Paris. Botanist Michel Adanson named the genus *Aubrieta* in his honor.

### **Leonardo da Vinci**

The Vitruvian Man is Leonardo's finest display of blending mathematics and art together. The drawing exhibits Leonardo's ability to recognize human proportions. It brings both Leonardo's research and understanding in ancient text and the application of his own knowledge and understanding of human anatomy.

The Renaissance period gave birth to many structural masterpieces and provided the world with iconic works such as *The Vitruvian Man*, *The Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*, all crafted by Leonardo during this period, additionally, he also created many structural designs including a helicopter-like flying device, a parachute, and a battle tank design which were well ahead of their time.

### **Painting tip: Tracy Moreau**

#### **Decoupage**

Decoupage for backgrounds is a fast and fun way to create interest. It's also an easy way to establish a base for your color 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 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 or Matt medium over the surface. Let it dry thoroughly before sand 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 due to the finish it provides nice tooth and is easy to paint on.

If you do not have the Decoupage Matt, try the DecoArt Media, Matt Medium. Both dry to a lovely crystal

clear Matt finish, and they dry non tacky.

### **Another Tip: Prepping surface**

The best finish you're going to get, is the one you are painting over....so be sure that the Surface you are working on is stable. Stable doesn't mean perfect....It can be rough, smooth, lightly textured, or smooth as a baby's tush.

When I say stable it means that the surface is solid and will hold whatever you put on it without peeling, cracking ( unless you intend it to) or flaking.

To get a strong stable surface, you have to prep, and that can be very easy... simply inspect, the surface, fix any flaws or damage,. Clean it, remove any detritus, or debris, loose or peeling paint. If you are using standard liquid acrylics (DecoArt Americana, Folk Art, Delta) try using the following:

**For Raw Wood** or MDF: SAND well! Apply All-purpose sealer, one coat. Let it dry thoroughly. Sand lightly, wipe clean apply a second coat, sand lightly, wipe clean. or Mix All purpose sealer with base color. apply as above.

**For Glass:** Clean glass thoroughly using either Hot water and soap OR vinegar. Dry thoroughly. Apply adhesion medium, let dry. OR Clean glass thoroughly, etch the surface using Etchall or similar etching cream. Rinse and dry thoroughly before painting.

**For Stone or Terracotta** (indoors and out): The trick to this is to seal the entire surface, inside outside, front back, bottom. If there is any area left unsealed, moisture can get behind the paint, causing blisters and peeling. Seal surface with Clear indoor-outdoor sealer. (I use Deco art Decoupage Outdoor) on all sides. let it dry and then re coat. Let it dry well before applying paint. Seal with one or two coats of the Decoupage Outdoor (or outdoor sealer of your choice)

There are so many great products available now, that help you eliminate some of these steps, But it is always good to take the time to ensure that you have the best possible surface to work on.

Tracy is very sharing of her knowledge and my newsletter articles can't do without her! <grin>

<https://tracymoreau.net/>

**Decorative Painters Academy...** Have you checked the new classes and videos that have been added? The classes are fabulous and you will be pleased.

<https://decorativepaintersacademy.com/>

**Computer Stuff....** Be careful with your email and texts. Scammers and hackers are really busy right now. There was a major cyber breach recently and millions of people's info was captured. Including SS numbers, names and addresses and of course email addresses! Now the scammers are using this info to entice you to click on an email link. Never click on a link in an email. If it happens to be a business I am using I login their website in a browser instead.

Happy Painting,

Melinda