



February 2025 Newsletter

President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hi Ladies,

Well, our taste of Spring weather seems to be over.....It was surly nice while it lasted! I even planted some lilies on one warm day! We're back to painting weather now though. Thank you everyone for hanging in with us; Even though we had to cancel last month's meeting due to the weather, I hope we're back on track for a while.



This month, by special request, I'll be teaching poppies on fabric. I think you'll enjoy this project. Painting on fabric is fun and there is more "open" time for us to move paint around before it dries. It will be good to see everyone at this month's meeting on February 15, at Garden Plaza, 10:00am. There will be information and a supply list in this newsletter.



This is going to be a fun year. Your board has come up with so many fun projects for our monthly meetings and Summer Parties, be sure to keep the dates written down on your calendar so you won't miss a thing! Watch for details and a list of dates in your newsletters.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to plan and teach classes this year, you keep us all excited and enthusiastic about coming to meetings and painting. We are so lucky to have such an amazing group of people who together keep our little club interested in painting and learning new techniques, it amazes me how many fun ideas and projects are in store for this year! Again, thank you ALL!

Ginny Sparlin, Pres. 303-408-0414

Monthly Program Report-Deb Poster

Hi everyone! Ginny has done a great job letting us all know about her upcoming paint project. The samples are exquisite. I love the colors she used.

We have made a few changes on our projects because of missing January's date. Our website has updates posted. Of course, each project will be posted in the newsletter as always. As a reminder, our Summer Paint Parties will focus on "BUGS". Some fun surfaces could be stepping stones for your garden; small rocks for house plants; coasters; clay pots for plants; Journaling, etc. Personally, I'm probably going to do a chair (without arms) or maybe a tray. I encourage you to find a piece asap so you can prep it or refinish it as needed with a neutral base color like an ivory. As soon as I can I will have a sample to help guide your choices. The types of bugs to choose from will include butterflies, dragonflies, bees, ladybugs, scarab/beetles, cicada etc. Keep in mind a possible color scheme that suits your tastes. Start your stash hunting now! As before, we will have a few surprise quickie projects if time allows.

Contact me via text - Debbie 720 217 2383 with suggestions!

Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes

Lydia Steeves... Lydia is generously donating her time and talent again this year on Artful Webinars website. The California wildfires have been devastating and help desperately needed. The Pasadena Humane Society is her first free class with a donation. You can take the class or just donate.

<https://pasadenahumane.org/>

<https://artfulwebinars.regfox.com/jelly-bean-and-kevin-wlydia-steeves>

Judy Diephouse... Judy posted this on Facebook and thought some of you would find this interesting. "Happy New Year to all of my painting friends. Since I am fully retired finally at 82, I want to tell of you That you may copy any of my patterns to GIVE NOT SELL to any of your painting friends. They are free for everyone to use as they wish. Have fun painting.

Yes, I do still paint, mainly for family and friends when they request something. I have had great fun giving lots of the old class samples away. It is a joy to see someone select something they will love and treasure."

Marlene Kreutz CDA... Marlene has a sale right now through the end of February. While you are visiting her website be sure and see what is new. Some cute new patterns!

<https://marlenekreutz.com/>

I know this is a lot from Tracy Moreau, but all such good information.

Painting Tip... by Tracy Moreau

Don't have a stencil Brush?? or Stenciling on a very large area??

Did you know you can easily stencil with a high-density foam roller or Dollar \$tore Cosmetic Sponges?? Secure the stencil with Painter's tape, Pick up the paint. Blot lightly on paper towel and use light pressure to apply and voila! A fast and easy solution!

Painting tip... Cleaning Stencils (Since stenciling has become so popular I thought this tip would be helpful.) Cleaning stencils... we have all left a stencil too long before attempting to clean it up... and have felt they were a lost cause. But they are almost always salvageable... with a few little tricks.

Tip 1: never use HOT water. This can cause the Mylar or plastic to buckle or stretch. Rendering the stencil useless.

Tip 2: kitchen sponges (the ones with a soft scrubby side) are perfect for cleaning stencils. Just take your time and take care with detailed or elaborate stencils. Don't want to bend those little bits.

Tip 3: I use a large piece of plate glass or a ceramic tile to lay the stencils on in the sink the stencils will stick when wet and makes it easy to clean without damaging the stencil.

Cleaners: My faves....

DecoArt Brush Magic is an awesome stencil/brush/jewelry cleaner... I attach a spray pump to the bottle to spray the stencil (saves brush cleaner and works very well) let it sit for a minute or two and then lay it on a flat solid surface and gently scrub with a kitchen sponge. Pat dry.

Gel hand sanitizer... awesome for classes and travel...inexpensive and very effective on fresh or dry paint. Rub some into the stencil and let sit for about 30 seconds. Lay flat on a solid surface and gently scrub with a kitchen sponge. Rinse with cool water. Pat dry.

Great for emergency brush cleaning too (just don't use it too often)

Rubbing alcohol... great in a pinch and cheap like borscht, this is very effective to remove fresh, dry or old paint. I spray it onto the stencil and let it sit for just a few seconds. Lay it on a flat solid surface and then scrub gently with a kitchen sponge.

Awesome:

Great stuff, works quite well, when you can find it is not readily available in Canada.

Did you know... The first Crayola Crayon was Black!!

Cherished by generations of children, Crayola Crayons were invented in 1903 by cousins Edwin Binney and C. Harold Smith, founders of the Binney & Smith Co. of Easton, Pa. The company used paraffin wax and nontoxic pigments to produce a coloring stick that was safe, sturdy and affordable.

Since their introduction more than two hundred distinctive colors have been produced in a wide variety of assortments. Crayola became such a hit because the company figured out a way to inexpensively combine paraffin wax with safe pigments.

The line has undergone several major revisions in its history, notably in 1935, 1949, 1958, and 1990. Numerous specialty crayons , markers and pencils have also been produced, complementing the original Crayola assortment.

In the last 120 years there have been precious few North American artists and creatives, that did Not have a big box of Crayola Crayons!

Did You Know... Berthe Morisot was one of the few female Impressionist artists. She was born in 1841 in Bourges, France, and was a descendant of Jean-Honoré Fragonard, who was an important Rococo artist. Morisot received an informal artistic education from Camille Corot and two of her works were accepted by the Salon on her first try in 1864. She exhibited more of her paintings in the years to come, but despite the positive response she got, she stopped showing her work at the famous exhibition. Instead, Morisot helped organize the Impressionist exhibitions and participated in seven of the movement's eight shows. She couldn't participate in the fourth because she was ill after giving birth to her daughter Julie.

Her home also became a popular spot for Impressionist artists and writers. Morisot is known for depicting women, domestic life, and private scenes like in *Woman at Her Toilette*. Her work has been praised for portraying women in a way that doesn't objectify them. The artist died of pneumonia in 1895 when she was only 54 years old.

Did you know.... The color wheel predates the United States?

Considering the US is one of the oldest modern democracies, this is pretty amazing.

Sir Isaac Newton invented the color wheel in 1706 by refracting white sunlight into its six colors. The realization that light alone was responsible for color was radical, and the wheel proved especially useful for artists, who could now easily observe the most effective color complementation.

Did you know.... Frederic Whitaker (1891–1980) was an American designer, painter and author. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, Frederic Whitaker began his working career as an apprentice designer with W. J. Feeley and Co., manufacturers of metal-ware, where he soon rose to head of design. He went on to work with Gorham Manufacturing Company and Tiffany & Co., both noted producers of fine silver, and later bought and built up two companies on his own, Foley and Dugan in Providence and G.H. Seffert in New York. During this time Whitaker was also actively painting, working mainly in watercolors, and in 1949 he retired from business to devote all his attention to painting, writing, and art-related philanthropic activities. Whitaker was a member of the National Academy of Design, served seven years as president of the American Watercolor Society, and founded Audubon Artists, whose purpose is to speak for all aspects of the visual arts.

Did you know... Gustave Moreau (6 April 1826 – 18 April 1898) was a French artist and an important figure in the Symbolist movement. Jean Cassou called him "the Symbolist painter par excellence". He was an influential forerunner of symbolism in the visual arts in the 1860s, and at the height of the symbolist movement in the 1890s, he was among the most significant painters. He was a prolific artist who produced over 15,000 paintings, watercolors, and drawings. Moreau painted allegories and traditional biblical and mythological subjects favored by the fine art academies.

Tracy shares her talent with a project she paints almost every Saturday on Facebook and YouTube.com. When you visit her website, you might find a discount code at the top of the page.

Tracy's website: <https://tracymoreau.net/>

Computer Security:

Sp*m... It all started with an email titled "Sad announcement" followed by a full name (or no name) of someone you know. Started earlier last year on Facebook and Messenger. Now it is an email campaign, so beware.

Apple has released security patches for most of its operating systems, including iOS, Mac, iPadOS, Safari, and visionOS.

The updates for iOS and Intel-based Mac systems are especially important, as they tackle vulnerabilities that are being actively exploited by cybercriminals. You should make sure you update as soon as you can.

To check if you're using the latest software version, go to Settings > General > Software Update. It's also worth turning on Automatic Updates if you haven't already, which you can do on the same screen.

Melinda

"Broken pencils are pointless."