



## March 2025 Newsletter

### President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hi Everyone,

It's coming!! My maple trees have little poofy "blooms" on the tips of their branches and there are daffodil and crocus leaves coming up and even a few tulip leaves are showing!

Speaking of tulips, I hope you'll all be at this month's meeting on Saturday 15, 10:am at Garden Plaza. Karon Sorensen will be teaching us to paint Tulips on glass. This is a beautiful project and if you've never painted on glass, you're in for a real treat!

Thank you everyone who attended last month's meeting, hope you all enjoyed painting Poppies on fabric. If you didn't finish your project in class, I hope you do complete it, they were all looking so beautiful. Sorry about the snow, it snuck up on us.....

Look for more info and the supply list further into this newsletter for Karon's project.

Keep your cell phone handy for some great Spring flower and scenery pictures to paint....

Ginny Sparlin

### Monthly Program Report-Deb Poster

Happy Daylight Savings everyone! I love this time of year...after I get used to the change.

On Saturday March 15 we'll be painting on glass with Karon Sorensen. The club will have several bottles of multi-Surface acrylic paint colors to share. Please feel free to use them. Be aware you may need to mix colors as needed for Karon's project. See you at Garden Plaza by 10am. Some of us try to be there by 9:30 to help set up tables and snacks. We always appreciate having extra hands for set-up and clean-up so a BIG THANK YOU to all of you for your help. Thank you, Ginny, for the lovely Poppies on fabric project in February! It's so much fun to see everybody's project. Sadly, mine is not finished....

In April, Marilyn is teaching a very interesting concept of NeuroGraphic art that may actually change, for the better, your brain! I have my hopes for adding more gratitude to my life!! My

research into this science promises real positive rewards. As a form of art, the results are stunning!

Respectfully,

Debbie Poster

## **March Program-Karon Sorensen**

I will be teaching Tulips painted on a Glass Plate.

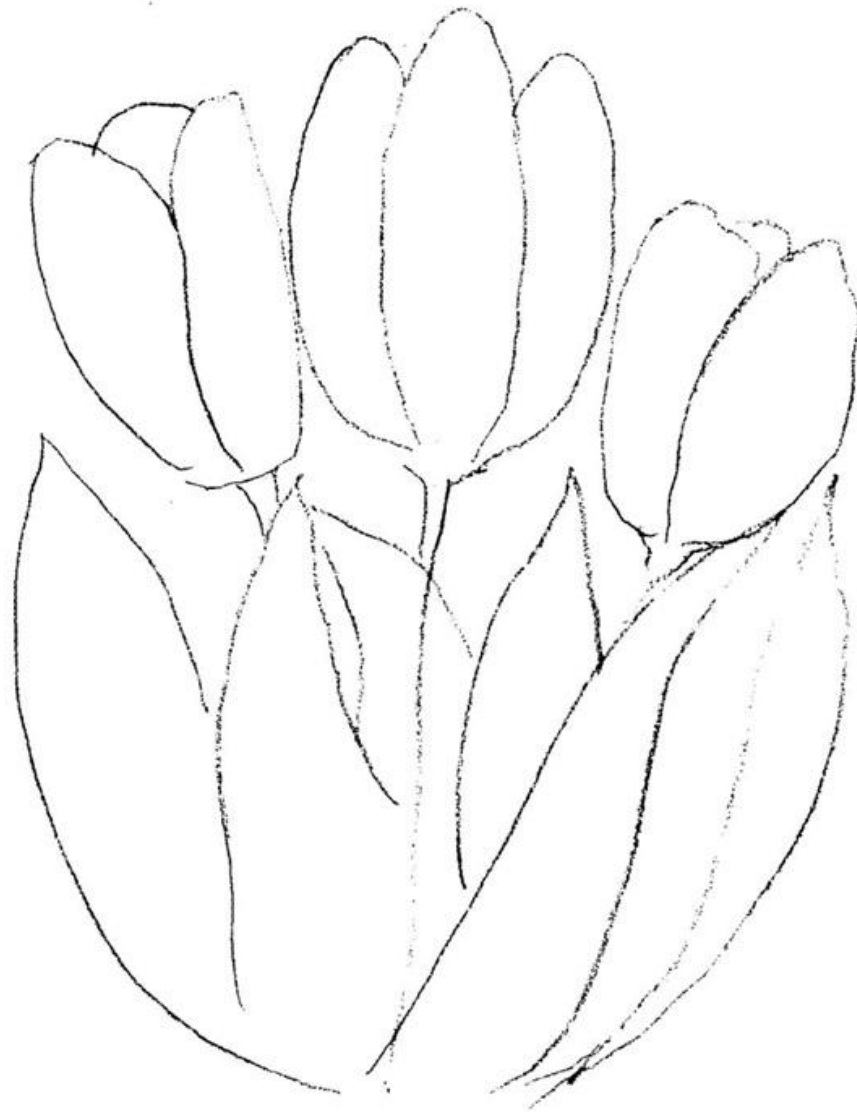
Debbie Poster will be bringing the all-purpose paints. The items to bring are a 6–7-inch glass plate, (this can be purchased at “The Dollar Tree”, bushes,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch flat,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch flat, and a liner, water bucket, & paper towels, Cut the pattern in a circle and tape to the bottom of the plate.



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## **Plate painting:**

1. Clean the plates thoroughly with detergent and water: they must be free of dust and grease. Go over plate with some 91% alcohol Dry them and make sure that no new fingerprints are left on them.
2. Transfer your desired motif onto the tracing paper. Place the tracing paper on the bottom of plate, fix it with some adhesive tape. Then trace your motif with pens or just see pattern through plate. Paint with enamel or all purpose paint. I am not listing colors as they vary depending on manufactures choices. I used a red, white, 2 shades of light and a darker green. Start with the tulip petals then leaves solid colors, let completely dry before adding second coat this will be with your shading color. Should you get paint on yourself, the wet paint can usually be removed easily with a cotton swab or a cloth. If the paint is already dry, an alcohol-based cleaner is used to remove it. If you use several paints, always let each one dry well until you apply the next one.
3. The paint must then dry 24 to 48 hours before baking. Check manufacturer's instructions and then fired in an oven. Usually the firing time and temperature is 30 minutes at 350 (do not preheated oven) place in cold oven, set your timer, do not take out of oven until oven has cooled. Afterwards the plates are water and dishwasher safe and ready to use.



## **Sunshine Report- Karon Sorensen**

We want to wish a wonderful Birthday to a March member.

Nan Auhll March 7

Paula Leopald March 18

Char Bucher March 31

And, also Kate Dowd celebrated hers on Feb 14



If you have a March birthday and I don't have it listed please send me an email

[karonsorensen7@gmail.com](mailto:karonsorensen7@gmail.com)

## **Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes**

**Dragonflies...** Interesting info about them I found.

Info from The Life & Times of the Dragonfly | Green Bay Botanical Garden

How long does a dragonfly live?

Once ready to transform into an adult, the dragonfly larva shifts to the edge of the water and learns to breathe in air. They'll slowly push out from their old shell body to emerge as an adult dragonfly. Adult dragonflies typically live for up to six months. I was surprised at the length of time as an adult.

What does the dragonfly symbolize?

Many cultures in the world (3). As a spirit animal, the dragonfly represents having wisdom and resilience to adapt to change. Because the dragonfly changes form throughout its life, it represents becoming your true self through transformation.

Colors of dragonflies mean?

Dragonflies come in a variety of colors, each having a different interpretation and meaning: Black means strength and mystery. Red represents passion, power, good luck, and protection from harmful or evil forces. Brown is believed to bring nurturing and healing. Blue delivers loyalty,

## **Busted Canvas...**

Some of us have made busted canvases or want to try one. Here's a good tutorial from a Canadian napkin business.

Link to tutorial: <https://youtu.be/cFkahlV1-d8?si=e3Nscgd9utHRfBtj>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/14SmaSh6JS/>

### **Chris Haughey... You Tube Videos**

If you aren't watching any of Chris' how-to videos on YouTube.com you are missing out on some good techniques! These videos are not long and not filled with chit-chat. I'm looking forward to her class for CDA in October... looks like fun! You can go to YouTube and put Chris' name in the search box to see what is available.

### **Dollhouse Miniatures... Neadeen Masters**

She says why she loves working with miniatures so much? It's not just a dollhouse, not a child's toy, goodness knows this isn't an inexpensive hobby. What I love about decorating these miniature houses is the storytelling aspect of it! Lost in imagination, creativity bubbles to the surface and ideas can run wild. Out pops the story. You can visit her website and see the amazing things she does. Many of her miniatures are made by her.

<http://www.neadeenmasters.com>

### **Some History... Mandala**

Mandala's popularity has grown with the popularity of adult coloring books; Mandala has actually been around since the 4th century. Primarily in Tibet, India, Nepal, China and Japan, Mandalas are a spiritual and ritual symbol of Buddhism.

Mandalas has long been viewed as a therapeutic art form. Coloring one in, or creating one yourself, the repeating patterns replicate nature. Buddhists call it "oneness with the universe." They bring balance, reduce stress, and inspire creativity. They represent the connection between our inner worlds and outer reality. Mandalas are said to reflect your inner self at the time you create them.

**Robyn Brooks, CDA...** Robyn paints in oils and has now started developing colored pencil patterns. You may see one you like on her site.

<https://theartisticbrush.com/>

These interesting facts are from Tracy Moreau posting on Facebook

- **Did you Know... Left-handed artists**

If you are a south paw, well, you are in excellent company! Artists always have to be a little different...all of the following were famously talented left handers!

Albrecht Duer, Paul Klee, Michael Angelo,, Thomas Kincaid, Raphael, Rembrandt Van Rijn,. And of course, Leonardo DaVinci (though he was technically ambidextrous...his left was the dominant hand).

### **Did you Know... Vincent Van Gough**

It wasn't until he was 27 that Vincent Van Gogh started painting. He was self-taught, save for attending art school in Antwerp for just a few months only 4 years before his death. And yet he created over 2000 paintings!!



### **Did You Know...**

The colors used in paintings are not always down to artistic choice. Many patrons actually commissioned how much of each shade could be used, as some pigments such as ultramarine were extremely expensive. It is often used on the robes of the Virgin Mary, showing the level of devotion and expense the patron gave towards the creation of the artwork. Ultramarine was one of the most expensive pigments until 1826 when a much cheaper synthetic variety was invented.

### **Today's "Did you Know" Spurred some questions ... here is a great answer:**

"The time-consuming process of extracting Ultramarine from lapis lazuli, combined with the distances it had to travel from its source, made natural Ultramarine a supremely expensive pigment. So much so that it was once considered more precious than gold when weighed gram by gram.

To produce genuine ultramarine pigment from lapis lazuli was a complex, lengthy process. The mineral mined was ground and mixed with resin, linseed oil or wax, and then heated to form a dough-like mixture. This was kneaded like bread and placed in a lye solution, allowing blue flakes to separate, sink and dry, with the result being a fine blue powder pigment. The process would then be repeated to produce a finer grade of pigment each time, meaning that a comparatively small amount of ultramarine pigment could be extracted from the stone. Nonetheless, it created a high-quality blue pigment free from the invisible impurities which lay in the rock and damaged the paint color. The preciousness of the pigment dictated how it was used in painting. Artists employed it sparingly and had to account for the hefty cost, which was sold at the best quality and price in Venice. Where Michelangelo purportedly couldn't afford to use Ultramarine for his works, Vermeer was so taken by the pigment he refused to paint without it, his frequent use eventually resulting in his family falling into debt. From the year 1400, Ultramarine was often used to paint the robes of the Virgin Mary, to illustrate her divinity. However, artists were still financially conflicted when using the pigment, so it was reserved for significant works of art, such as Sassoferrato's Praying Madonna (circa 1660), and it remained a privilege to use the color until a synthetic version came onto the scene."

Information Sourced from Windsor Newton

### **Did you know....**

546 years ago one of the most famous people in history was born. Though you probably don't know her real name, you definitely know her face.

Lisa Gherardini, who never even saw her own portrait...

Lisa was born in the Republic of Florence on 15th June, 1479.

In 1495 she married a cloth merchant called Francesco del Giocondo. So, she became Lisa del Giocondo — known as La Gioconda in Italy and La Joconde in France. she died in 1542, at the age of 63.

Little could she or her husband have known that her face (and smile) would become perhaps the most famous face in history, known all around the world nearly five centuries

after her death.

Tracy shares her talent with a project almost every Saturday on Facebook and YouTube.com.

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

### **Computer Security**

Ransomware symptoms:

- Your device is locked: A splash screen appears upon startup that asks for payment and you can't login.
- Files won't open: You get an unusual error message that Windows or iOS are unable to open or find specific files.
- Odd or missing file extensions: Files have extensions like crypted or .cryptor or their extensions are missing altogether.
- You receive a payment notice: The hacker that infected your device gave you instructions on how to make payment.

**UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MAKE A PAYMENT!** They will have your credit card number and want more money!

Melinda