



April 2026 Newsletter

President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hi Ladies,

Do you all have Spring fever? I've been out in my yard trying to keep ahead of the weeds... Loving the weather! Lack of rain didn't do my bulbs much good but the lilacs are spectacular!

Our favorite Master Teacher, Marilyn Corners, will be teaching a wonderful original watercolor at our April 18th meeting. Look for any prep instructions and supply list further into this newsletter. We are so blessed to have so many wonderful painters in our little group, and they are all willing to share their talents, teaching our members at our meetings. All we have to do is show up prepared and ready to learn.

Hope to see you all at Garden Plaza, April 18, 10:00 AM.

Ginny Sparlin

For the program at our May meeting, Ginny Sparlin will be teaching a friendly little pig painting. It was painted on a round slice of wood with the bark still intact. If you'd prefer, you could paint it on a wood plaque or canvas board, most any surface of your choice.

There will be a picture of it in the May newsletter and on our website. I'll bring line drawings to the April meeting to distribute. You'll need to prep your surface by lightly sanding it, and painting it 2 coats of black. I used Americana, but you could use any brand you have on hand.

Supplies: Bring (to the May meeting) your regular acrylic painting supplies: Water container, brushes, paper towels, palette (such as a foam plate or two), and whatever paint you have from the list.

Paint colors: Americana

- Black
- White

- Terra coral
- Russet or Ceramcoat: Candybar
- Honey brown or Raw Sienna
- Cadmium Yellow or primary yellow

Bring any of the colors that you have and we can pool our resources.

Hope to see you soon,

Ginny Sparlin (questions? call me 303-408-0414)

Vice President /Program Report-Deb Poster

Hi everyone!

Our meeting for April 18th, starting at 10am, is being taught by Marilyn Corners. It's a beautiful watercolor sunrise. She took the photo looking across the rooftop of her neighbor's house. In addition to the sunrise colors, you will paint the rooftop and a silhouette of a leafless tree, making a great composition!

A brief reminder: sometimes we have walk-in guests. They often like to chat with us. We welcome them but please do not engage with anyone while our teachers are starting the projects!! Many thanks!

Basic Watercolor Supplies

- Watercolor paper 140lb - NOTE: The club is supplying the paper!
- Watercolor paints and brushes
- Water tub
- Paper towels
- Black Sharpies both sizes
- ETC!

As always, you DO NOT need to paint the project!! Join us to visit, laugh and have a snack!! (Be mindful when our teacher is giving instruction please) Paint or finish anything you want!!

Respectfully,

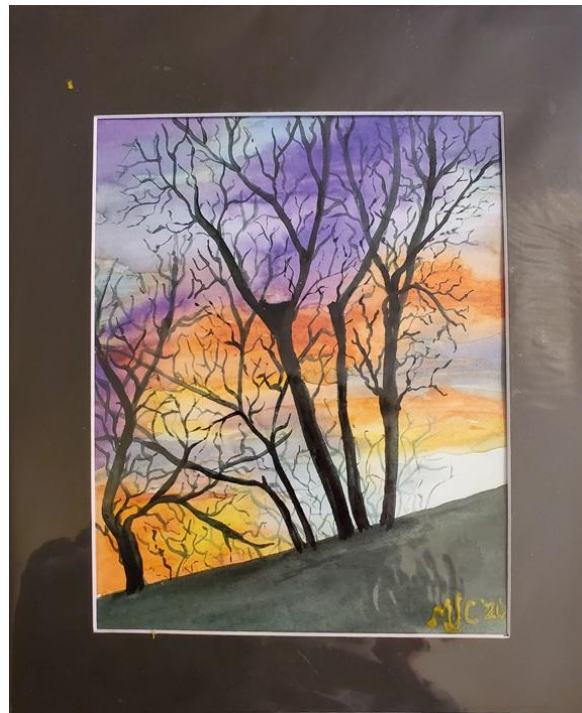
Debbie Poster

Month of April Instructor Report-Marilyn Corners

Hi Rocky Mountain Hi Decorative Artists....

I am so thrilled to have the opportunity to share "Sunrise" with you. This painting we will be doing at our meeting on the 18th is actually from a photo that I took from my front porch, looking East over my neighbor's roof top. It was mesmerizing and I could not resist painting it.

I so hope you enjoy both doing the painting and your finished masterpiece. 🥰



Supplies:

- *Watercolor paper 140lb. (Tape and backboard will be furnished in class)
- *Watercolor brushes #10 Flat, #6 Round, #4 Liner.
- *Micron Pen, #. 005
- *Watercolors: Red, Yellow, Blue, Black, Violet, Orange.

This is going to be so much fun.

Hugs,

Marilyn

Marilyn Corners, MDA

Rocky Mountain Hi Decorative Artists, Past President

www.RockyMountainHiArtists.com

303-249-1009

marilyn.corners@gmail.com

Sunshine Report- Karon Sorensen

We all want to send best Birthday wishes to the following members!

Ginny Sparlin- April 6

Debbie Poster- April 7

Andrene Schmelzer- April 13

Joan Eger- April 24



Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes

Holly Hanley... If you need a cute bunny to paint for Easter here is one you can't resist for only \$5.00. Use the link below and it is the second one on the page. Note: I purchased this e-packet and with the US conversion I was charged \$3.77 for this adorable bunny pattern. Win Win 😊 <https://www.hollyhanley.ca/e-packets/>

Glue Sticks Tip... Another tip from Holly Hanley is there are glitter glue sticks in different colors! I need to go to the store more often. 😊

QuikWood... I don't think I've mentioned this, but important to some users. I'm also sorry to say I'm not sure who posted this. You may have seen my post.... here it is.... For those of you who use Quikwood, and were wondering what to use now that they have been discontinued

it.... I found 2 other epoxy putty and tried them. (Ordered both from Amazon.) One is KwikWood by JB Weld and the other is PC Lumber.

The KwikWood I found to have a kind of gritty or sawdust texture with it. PC Lumber had a much smoother texture like QuikWood did. I also found that PC Lumber cured more quickly.... stiffened in 15 to 20 minutes with full harden within an hour. So, PC Lumber is the winner IMO.

Edit... Also, the Kwikwood seems to stick to fingers a lot leaving a thick sticky film, PCL didn't. (I used a skin barrier cream to shield my skin from chemicals.) Also, they both have an odor. PC L smells just like Quikwood, the KwikWood smells too but a little different.

Chris Williams... This month in the Online Market Spot by Crafters and Creatives (Facebook) Chris was creating another wonderful card and gave the patterns for the card free. This feature at the end of most months is run by Laurie Spelts. There are sales and demos. Some are very interesting.

Kole Hunt APC Expo. Sunday night (March 29th) made the following announcement. This is long, but some of you may be registered or would like to attend.

>----- After extensive consideration, planning, and many conversations behind the scenes, we have made the decision to transition the 2026 APC Expo from an in-person convention to a fully virtual experience. This was not a decision we made lightly. Our team remained committed for as long as possible to hosting this event in person. However, due to rising travel costs and ongoing economic uncertainties affecting many within our community, we felt this change would better serve everyone and allow more people the opportunity to participate. And with this change comes some truly exciting benefits:

6-Month Access to Classes

Watch, pause, and revisit your classes anytime—and even take overlapping classes without missing a thing!

More Classes, No Conflicts

No more choosing between favorites—you can enjoy them all.

Create Your Own At-Home Retreat

Gather your friends or paint group and turn Expo week into your own creative getaway (all participants must be registered).

Comfort & Convenience

No travel, no rushing—just learning and creating from the comfort of home.

We truly believe this opens the door to an incredible new way to experience APC Expo—bringing inspiration, education, and connection right to you. We can't wait to share this experience with you!

If you have already registered, please check your email. ...

TRACY MOREAU'S SPOT

Painting Tip:

Stencils of Generic shapes in a variety of Sizes are a must in your painting box. Simple geometrics and rudimentary shapes can be used for so many things.

I use Polka Dot stencils constantly, and shape templates as well, for ensuring crisp clean round shapes Like Pearls or flower centers... I Use diamond or triangles for interesting backgrounds and textures. The same for simple check patterns.

I have each of them in a variety of sizes so I can use them on virtually any sized surface or project.

Painting Tip:

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

Did you know.....

Van Gogh began working on Irises during his first week at the asylum in Saint-Rémy, France. (the same location where he painted Starry Night) There are no known sketches he did for the Irises painting.

In September 1889, Van Gogh's brother, Theo, submitted the piece to Salon des Indépendants and later wrote to his brother of the exhibition, '[It] strikes the eye from afar. It is a beautiful study full of air and life.'"

Did you know

Pierre-Auguste Renoir

25 February 1841 – 3 December 1919, was a French artist who was a leading painter in the development of the Impressionist style, but he began his artistic career as a Decorative Painter, working to help support his family, as an apprentice in a ceramics factory. His employer recognized his natural gifts and recommended to his family that he attend art school. When the factory became mechanized, he continued to work painting fans and banners before he registered at Ecole de beaux Arts in Paris. The rest as they say...is art history!

Did you know...

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 *Elemens 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.

Did you know

Prized for its brilliant color, pastel was first used in the sixteenth century, notably by Leonardo da Vinci. It flourished in the eighteenth century, again in the late nineteenth century, and remains popular today. The optical vibrancy of a work in pastel results both from the absence of yellowing resins in its composition and the reflection of light from the innumerable facets of the finely ground powder. It is an opaque medium and does not depend upon the underlying brightness of the paper to impart luminosity. In the eighteenth century, artists invariably used blue or gray papers because of the slightly coarse texture of such colored sheets.

When mixed with water, pastel forms an opaque paint-like substance that may be applied by brush to produce accents and highlights. Artists can further vary the texture by employing a combination of soft and hard pastels in the work of art. As a powder, pastel does not form a solid layer and excessive blending and mixing diminish its brilliance. The richest chromatic effects are achieved by applying marks with individual sticks of color or pencil, this accounts for the innumerable ready-made hues and tints common to boxes of pastel. For many artists, this manner of applying color as separate strokes rather than as mixtures provides opportunities to create striking tonal relationships. Edgar Degas, for example, placed strokes of complementary and contrasting hues side by side and interwove them to produce tapestries of color.

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

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

Computer Security...

iPhone users make sure your phone is updated!

Researchers at Google have identified an iOS exploit chain, named DarkSword, that has been used since late last year by multiple actors to infect iPhones with malware in targeted attacks.

DarkSword combines six vulnerabilities in iOS and Safari to deploy malware on the device. It demonstrates, once again, how important it is to keep up with updates.

The exploit works against iPhones running iOS versions 18.4 through 18.7, and simply visiting a malicious or compromised website with a vulnerable device can be enough to get infected (a drive-by attack).

20,000+ Fake Shops... Watch where you are shopping on the web. This link explains how to protect yourself.

https://www.malwarebytes.com/blog/scams/2026/03/inside-a-network-of-20000-fake-shops?utm_source=iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=b2c_pro_oth_20260323_marchweeklynewsletter_v4_2_177427833812&utm_content=fakeshops

Melinda