



September 2026 Newsletter

President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hey Ladies,

Hope you all got to do everything you wanted to do this Summer. I'm still hoping we have a long Fall, I love it when the trees have a chance to really put on a show, so many shades of red, yellow, copper... red Virginia creeper, lemony grape vines. Fall is one of my favorite seasons. Pretty soon we'll be gearing up for the Holidays, can you believe how quickly the time goes?

This month Andrene will be teaching us a wonderful project on watercolor paper. The cutest little kitties! Pack up your watercolor supplies or color pencils and come on over to Garden Plaza this Saturday, September 19, 10: am. Be there or be square. Even if you don't feel like painting come and chat, it's just good to re connect with everyone, and there will be snacks!

Hope to see you all Saturday!

Ginny

September Program Report-Andrene Schmelzer

Here are the supplies and photo for the upcoming class:

You need to bring a fine Sharpie pen or any other brand of fine pen for the whiskers. Also bring graphite,

tracing paper, stylus, water basin, paper towels, masking tape and a small surface to tape it to. You can trace at home to save time. Brushes used are small rounds and small flats or angles.



For this stained-glass cat, you can use any colors you prefer. It will be nice to see what everyone comes up with. This one takes some time to paint, so I suggest you do not try to do both at the meeting.

The watercolors I used are cerulean blue, cad. Yellow, cad orange, neutral tint, sap green, violet, perm. red and brilliant pink. If you prefer to use your acrylics, just bring any similar colors which can be watered down. Most of us have watercolors though,

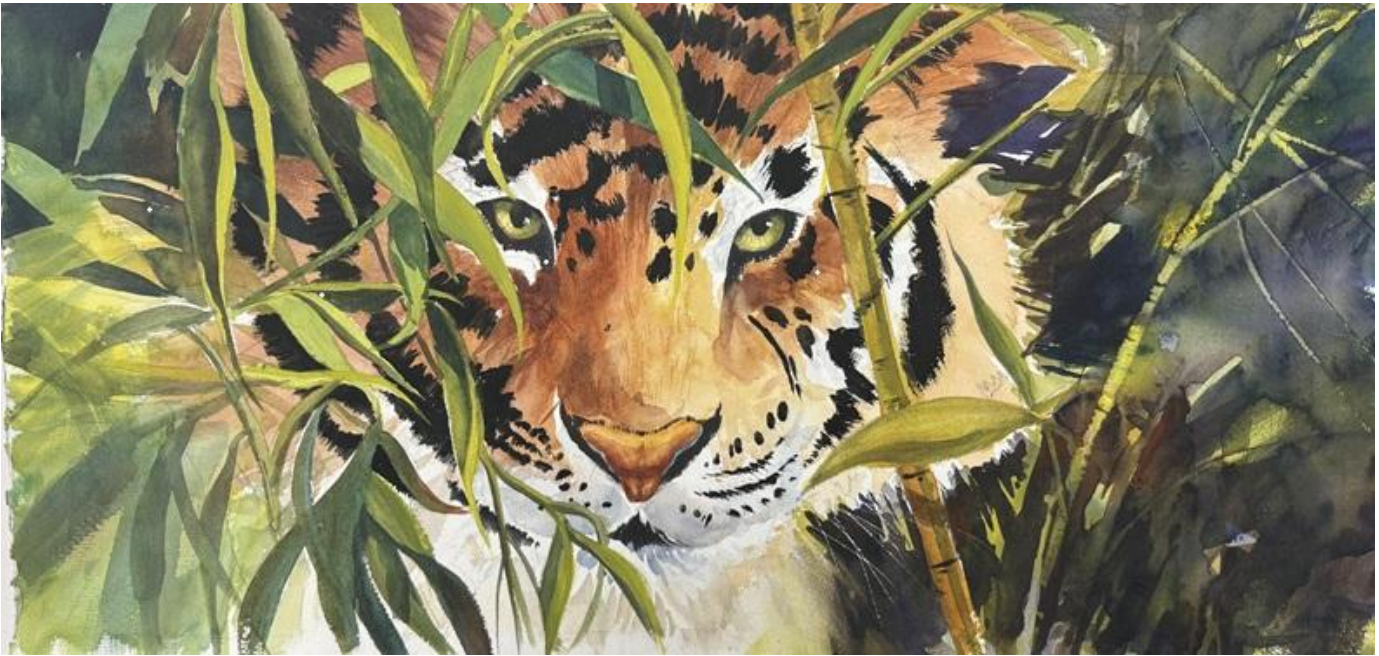
These can be painted on watercolor paper or multi-media paper. They are on a 3 inch by 8-inch strip.

Here are the colors I used: for the 3 cats if you have time to start a second project, or want to do at home. Davy's grey, Paynes grey, brilliant pink, Windsor blue, ultramarine blue, cad yellow, neutral tint, and sap green

I have some multi-media paper that Melinda donated, but some will have to be done on watercolor paper too, depending on how many are attending the class. So, if you either of these papers please bring what you have.

Local Workshop Report-Andrene Schmelzer

This is our free watercolor class with Colleen Nelson at Judy Patti's Studio, [5847 South Broadway Circle, Englewood, CO 80113](#)



The class is October 10th and starts at 9:30 am and ends at 1:30 pm. There will be no lunch break, but feel free to bring snacks or a sandwich and beverage. Donuts will be available in the morning. The studio only holds 15, so sign up early. Zoom will also be available for those who prefer to do from home. It will also be recorded, in case you don't finish in class.

The size of the watercolor paper needed is about 10 inches by 19 inches. You can sign up at our September 19th meeting or call Andrene at [720-840-1255](tel:720-840-1255)

Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes

TOLE CHATTER

COLOR BLUE

The color blue was rare, difficult to make, and often missing from ancient languages. Ancient Roots and Rarity No Natural Source: Blue is rare in nature and does not easily form as an earth pigment in soil.

Lapis Lazuli: Ancient civilizations imported this bright blue stone from Afghanistan over 6,000 years ago. It was crushed into Ultramarine, a luxury pigment that cost more than gold.

Egyptian Blue: Ancient Egyptians invented the first synthetic pigment around 2500 BCE by heating silica, copper, lime, and alkali.

Linguistic Debate: Most users on Reddit agree that while ancient cultures like the Greeks lacked a specific standalone word for blue (describing the sea as "wine-dark" instead), they still perceived the color and other ancient groups like the Egyptians and Hebrews had words for it.

Middle Ages and Royalty

The Virgin Mary: In the 12th century, the Catholic Church began dressing the Virgin Mary in expensive ultramarine blue, raising the color's status to holy and prestigious.

Royal Fashion: French kings adopted blue in their royal coats of arms, making it a symbol of nobility across Europe.

Everyday Dyes: Cheaper plant dyes like woad(a plant) and indigo allowed working-class people to wear blue clothes even when artists still lacked affordable blue paint.

I hope you are enjoying and interested in the history of color.

TRACY MOREAU'S SPOT

Just a note first: Tracy has been posting worksheets every day on Facebook of fruit and other things. The worksheets in color includes the brushes used, colors of DecoArt paint, and lots of color step by steps. They are amazing!

Did you know...

Tattooing dates back nearly 6000 years!!

In recent history, tattoos have come to signify anything and everything. The ancient Greeks used them to mark slaves and criminals, and the Romans extended this practice to soldiers. Neither civilization indulged in tattooing the general populace, however; they associated the ink with the Britons, Goths, Thracians and other so-called "barbarians" from which they wanted to distinguish themselves.

Animals, real and legendary, were a frequent source of inspiration for these groups and others around the world. One Scythian chief from the Pazyryk Valley in present-day Siberia, preserved in a tomb since the first millennium B.C., was discovered bedecked with a variety of fantastic beasts, spanning his torso and limbs: a horse, a ram, a fish, two griffins and a pack of other, more monstrous creatures.

Animals are common subject matter in many cultures even today, often due to a perceived connection with the spirit of the animal.

Given its widespread popularity, tattooing seems to be ingrained in human nature. Nevertheless, some tried to outlaw it in the past. According to early Judaism and Christianity, tattoos defiled a body made perfect by, and in the image of, their God. In the meantime, tattoos thrived almost everywhere else. Anthropologists believe that to many pagan peoples, who identified themselves by the cuts in their skin, "it would be sacrilegious not to be tattooed." Indeed, in many parts of Polynesia, Asia, Africa and the Americas, tattoos were not individual choices but rather communal rites of passage. They were necessary for acceptance in society: If you weren't marked, you would be ridiculed and shamed.

Did you know...

Bauernmalerei (pronounced bow-urn-maler-rye)

Note: Long, but interesting

Is folk art associated with Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The term comes from two words: "bauern" which means peasant or farmer and "malerei" which means painting. In reality, the farmers and peasants hardly did any painting - they were too busy in the fields and in fact were customers to travelling painters and cabinet makers.

It originated in the Bavarian and Austrian Alps and the Swiss Apenzell and is therefore also commonly referred to as "Bavarian Folk Art".

Although Bauernmalerei began as something very simple and naive, it has undergone many phases of evolution.

Trends in art and architecture exerted heavy influences and various styles of Bauernmalerei emerged between the 17th century and the 19th century. Each period - The Renaissance Period (17th Century), The Baroque Period (1700 - 1800), The Rococo Era (circa 1750), The Empire Era and The Biedermeier Era (up to the mid-19th century) - brought with it influences which affected the type of backgrounds painted on - raw, painted or faux finished, the way the designs were arranged - symmetrical or asymmetrical, the type of flowers and objects painted as well as colors used.

There were many regional variations as the art spread throughout Europe from village to village. Master craftsmen applied their preferred techniques and styles to individualize their painted decoration.

The **Tolzer Style** originated from a town called Bad Tolz in Southern Germany. The most famous is the Tolzer Rose which has become a favorite with many folk artists. The style is easy and is ideal for beginners.

The **Rossler Style** was painted mainly on Schrank, beds and trunks by painters in a village just north of Stuttgart. This style features not only flowers but also animals and peasant scenes, fruit baskets, hearts and swirls. The painting is generally naive with a combination of blues and greens as backgrounds and characteristic red borders.

The **Wismut Style** was associated with "wismut" which is a metal mined in the Erz mountains of Germany. It was applied as background on small chests to imitate the silver chests of the wealthy after which flowers were painted on them. Figures in old costumes and beautiful borders around the edges are also featured on some trunks.

The **Hessian Style** - only trunks are painted in the Hessian style. The backgrounds were usually medium to a very dark blue. Flowers and borders on these pieces are usually quite primitive.

The **Franconian Style** is associated with Franconia, the northern region of Bavaria. The vases and flowers painted in this style are not as elaborate as those painted in lower Bavaria but are still rather pretty. "Peasant marble"

The **Black Forest Style** In the southwest corner of Germany, bordering Switzerland and France, lies an area called Black Forest - in German - Schwarzwald. The kind of painting originating from this region is very different and resembles porcelain painting. Everywhere else in Germany white over strokes are used as highlights on flowers, here the white from the background comes through as a highlight. Most of the time the background is painted in either off-white or an almost black.

Did you know....

Japanese ink painting, or sumi-e, is the embodiment of Japanese aesthetics. Using just simple black ink and carefully curated white space, sumi-e captures the timeless beauty and complexity of the natural world.

Zen Buddhist monks from China introduced this style of ink art to Japan in the fourteenth century where over time the brush strokes were reduced in number and simplified and were often combined with poetry to create the sumi-e style that we know today. The focus of the art of ink painting since its inception has been on the quality of the line; this is what captures the form.

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

Tracy has many e-packets available now.

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

COMPUTER SECURITY

Many junk emails have a "**unsubscribe**" link at the bottom. Don't click on that link **unless you know** you have ordered or subscribed to it.

AI and copyright

Works created entirely by artificial intelligence cannot be copyrighted because copyright law requires human authorship.

Pure AI-Generated Works Public domain: Content generated solely by a machine with no meaningful human input cannot receive copyright protection and goes directly into the public domain.

Apple fixes another image processing flaw that could allow code execution. This applies to some iPhones and other Apple devices.

As always watch what you open or links you click on.

Melinda