



The Paint-In *Official Newsletter*

December 2009 Edition

Meetings:



President's Remarks

By Jill Ferguson

It is hard to believe that the first year of my term as President is drawing to a close and what a pleasure it has been. As has been the case since I joined RLAA 11 years ago there is always lots going on. The enthusiasm of the group and the throng of willing volunteers certainly makes the job an easy and enjoyable one. We have lots of new members joining us for 2010, a sure sign that we will continue to be alive and well. The new environment of the North Crosby Hall is a delight for weekly paint-ins, workshops and meetings. I just finished the Klimt workshop with Andrea Mossop. Wow! It was so energizing and renewing and opened my eyes and brushes to a whole new realm. How lucky we all are to be artists and to have so many good friends through our Club.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Keep painting
Jill

Shows:

Art on the Lawn

The dates to keep in mind for the next *Art on the Lawn Show* are July 10th and 11th, 2009. Watch this space for more information next year.



At our September meeting our guest speaker was Stephen Rothwell. He spoke to us about how he has evolved as an artist, especially how he approaches his watercolour paintings now compared to how he had done in the past. Also he gave us a demonstration of this as he continued to tell us about his experiences as an artist, and also his experiences at trying to teach watercolours to fellow travelers on cruise ships.



In October our guest speaker was Ann Gruchy who spoke to us about the use of acrylics. She too gave us a demonstration of how she sets up a base of texturing with gels, etc. and then begins the painting process of building up her colours within the medium. As she demonstrated Ann answered questions from the membership.



November's meeting former member Marje Fletcher came to speak to us about her experiences painting Plein Air in oils and eco friendly thinners that she mixes with her oils. How she works on MDF boards that are small enough to travel with. She spoke to how she starts with a thin layer and builds up from there. She said that she can tell after about ten minutes if a painting is working for her or not. Sometimes she will just do a sketch of a subject and

then enlarge or finish it in her studio at a later date. Marje also had some of the photographs that she had taken at the various locations she had traveled to, then compared them with some of the paintings that she had brought to show

Marje also spoke of her recent trip to France where she mainly worked with pencil do several sketches as she traveled. She had taken some water-soluble oils with her but found that she did not like using them. Also, she mentioned that she found the light was different there and found that when she did work in colour that she had to use different colours than what she would use here in Canada. Since her return she has begun to do some paintings from her sketches.

Afterwards she showed us some of the paintings that she had done from her outings.

A tip that she uses when preparing to transfer a sketch she will use a pencil on the back of the sketch to create a carbon and then sprays it with hairspray. This allows for a clean transfer.

Reports on Workshops:

October 24th & 25th:



he gradually builds up each layer and how he begins to define the subject matter of the painting.

After each demonstration he put us to work working on our own masterpieces. Stephen would go around to each person giving instructions, tips, or just encouragement.



With an early start to the weekend Stephen Rothwell began by demonstrating his technique of painting. He puts on a rough sketch of what he wants to do then showed us how he first applies just colour. He went on to explain that

At the end of each day we showed what we had produced that day and Stephen then offered his impressions, and suggestions as well as allowing the group to have input.

For those who attended, we had a lot of fun, and learned a whole new way of approaching painting in watercolours.



These paintings were done by Stephen during this workshop.

November 21st & 22nd:



Andrea Mossop was the instructor for this workshop on the artist Klimt. She talked to us about his style of approaching his paintings, as well as his and how he loved not only life but women. Andrea told us that his medium of preference was oils, how he used gold leaf and precious jewels in his paintings. She spoke of his method of painting and how he would build layer upon layer. Each layer becoming more defined with the use of ornamentation and colour.

We spent the two days learning to use layers, shapes, colour, and patterning and had a marvelous time.

Newsworthy Notes:

August Show, Westport:

The peoples' choice award this year went to Cathy Lavender for her abstract painting.

Congratulations Cathy – well done.



Membership:

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new members to our club:

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Sharon Benson, Bill Brink, Connie Burke, Lorna and Dennis Hutton, Shirley Joynt, Lois Klatt, Aili Kurtis, Susan Leslie, Katherine Lavender, Doris Lillico, Maureen Reside, Lorna Schmidt, Shirley Shafer McCaw, Trevor Shaw, and An Vandermeulen.

Web Site Update: Website renewals that have received to date are in progress of being finished by December. Anyone who has paid their renewal and not submitted their updates, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Anyone new wishing to have their bio and photos of their artwork on the website, please fill out the form I sent out in November and return it to me with your bio, photos and a photo of yourself (if you would like one on the site) at your earliest convenience. If you do not have a form, please email me and I will send you one. The fee for one year is \$10. You will be notified in advance of when you are due for renewal.

At present, our website gets over 2000 visits every month and those numbers have been growing considerably as our website becomes known. The area with the most visits is the Artist's Bio section, so I am hoping to get as many members as possible showing a web presence and keep our audiences coming back. This is particularly important for our shows so people can 'check us out' before they visit.

Rose Wilson

Best Buys for Art Supplies

By Shirley Mancino

Paper, canvas, w/c, acrylic paints: Gwartzman's, Spadina Street Toronto

Mystery 100 % Rag Board: Woolfitt's Queen Street Toronto.

Masonite Panels: buy 4 x 8 sheets at Home Depot, have it cut to any size that you want. They provide 2-3 cuts free. Gesso both sides several times. Paint and/or wax the edges several times to keep the board flat when wet, and to act as an acid free barrier.

Framing Materials (mat board, frames, hardware, and glass, foam core, framing equipment): Triple Touch Moulding Toronto. See www.tripletouchmoulding.com for their product line (available thru STMancino).

To help you choose your mats and frames, a great website is: www.matshop.ca; click on outer mat; select desired colour and size; click on inner mat, etc. (be aware that you can change the width of each mat to see whether a wide or narrower mat looks better) These are Bainbridge matboards and are one of the best you can buy.

If you want to save money by getting a Canadian made mat board and cutting your own mats, go to www.tripletouchmoulding.com and find the equivalent colours in the Peterborough mats section, then order through S. Mancino.

Framing equipment: Triple Touch, Lee Valley Tools, on line shopping.

Foam Core: The cheapest mat board was last ordered through Impact Molding. They deliver to Kingston so would need someone willing to receive delivery if we repeat this order

Framing: Stephanie Davison, 11 Garrett Rd, 613-272-0128 or picsncrafts@yahoo.ca, Dawson Girdwood, Perth. Both of the above are reasonable and accommodating to artists. Some members use Chris at Carousel Gallery, Portland and others use Amy Blair, owner of Gilded Corners on Russell, in Davidson's Court, Smiths Falls.

Clear Bags: Crystal ClearBags you can order your own in larger amounts at - www.crystalclearbags.com) or call 1-888-436-6197:

For smaller amounts, Shirley Mancino keeps a supply of standard sizes e.g. 10 x 12in, 12 x 18, 14 x 18, 14 x 22, 16 x 20, 17 x 22, 2 x 30, 28 x 36, 5 x 8 and hang tabs at the same price as Crystal Clear Bags.

Printing: Giclee/greeting Cards: many artists in the area use Artech, south of Ottawa; they are not cheap but have been in business a long time. I use Images Interalia, Perth, they are closer and cheaper; you have to monitor them to make sure you get exactly the colours you want. Also, Greeting Cards and/or prints can be done at Impression Printing, 51 Abbott St. N., Smith's Falls (613-283-2444) who are apparently cheaper.

On line Shopping: Many materials can be ordered online and delivered to your door thru:

www.currys.comand or www.woolfitts.com

Both have a good monthly/quarterly newsletter and quarterly discount Go online to sign up.

The U.S.A. has numerous mail order discount providers such as the following:

www.cheapjoes.com

www.jerry'sartarama.com

www.dickblick.com

www.rexart.com)

Or do a google search for "art-supplies". For USA providers, you may have to pay brokerage fees and GST at the border. For cheaters, find a friend with a US address willing to receive delivery for you in the States and drive them across the border.

Stores/Galleries for Art Supplies: Shirley buys her art supplies from Gwartsmann's on Spadina Street at College in Toronto. They are a big supplier to art students at OCAD so they always have the cheapest prices but not necessarily all the brand names.

Art supplies can be purchased at Wallacks, two locations in Ottawa, and one in Kingston. Also, at Brush Strokes at 129 Bridge Street, Carleton Place (1-613-253-8088) web:

www.brushstrokesart@bellnet.ca

and Art Guys on Bank Street just down the street from Wallacks in Ottawa.

Tri-Art Paints are now available through Shirley Mancino.

Tips:

Keeping acrylic paint fresher longer

1) Use only a clean brush or palette knife in your jars, tubes or bottles. (Otherwise you are encouraging the transfer and growth of fungus).

2) Store your liquid bottles (and jars) upside down when not in use. This will allow the paint to settle near the opening thus providing a seal which prevents air from drying out your paints. It should also help deter the growth of fungus.

Editor's Note: Best Buys is a regular feature of the Paint-In. If you know of any other suppliers, etc. that could be added, please contact Shirley Mancino or the editor for future editions

More from DebbieOttman-Smith

Save your Brushes

Always Begin with a Dampened Brush!

I stumbled onto this trick by accident...your brush will be much easier to clean and will 'live' longer if you simply wet the hairs before putting them into the acrylic paint. I use two containers of water, one with a drop or two of dish detergent, the other with plain water [for rinsing my brush and adding to my paint]. Be careful not to fill the metal part of the brush with liquid, it will leak out of there during the painting process (this happens most often with the larger house painting style brushes). Do not fill your containers; the water should be no deeper than just below the top of the feral (*metal part*) of your shortest brush. For dry-brush techniques do not dip them into the container, just rub the bristle hairs on a wet cloth to dampen before loading with paint. If you load a truly dry brush with acrylic, the paint will dry and adhere bits of plastic to each bristle. You will never get it clean. Make sure you keep your brushes damp...you can place them in plastic or zip lock bag if you must leave them for a short period of time...up to overnight.

You can tell when acrylic is getting too dry when its shine turns to matte and becomes sticky; on a brush it will get clumped up around the top of the hairs at the metal edge. When this happens, clean it immediately!

Good brush care rules to follow are:

1. Never stand soft haired brushes in water.
2. Never let your brush dry out with acrylic paint on it. If you must step away for a minute, either put it in a plastic wrap or give it a good swish with the soapy water, don't ring it out.
3. For keeping your brush clean during the painting session or at the end of the day, wipe off the excess gobs of paint, swish first in the soapy water, then in the plain water which should be changed frequently... the brush is clean when the brush leaves no colour behind.
4. Never use hot water for cleaning brushes, it melts the glue inside and the hairs will fall out.
5. Let your brushes dry lying down to prevent the water from seeping inside causing damage.
6. When dry, brushes can be stored standing in a jar, bristle side up! Make sure when you are traveling or storing brushes that the hairs are not being interrupted or bent in any way.
7. No matter how damaged a brush gets you may be able to use it for special affects; test out its potential for creating foliage, rocks, texturing or use it for Frisket or glue before tossing it out.

For Frisket (liquid masking fluid traditionally used with watercolour) use a cheap brush. If you dip it in water, roll the bristles around on a bar of soap prior to loading the masking fluid, you will not have to throw out the brush after each use, the brush will come clean afterwards.

Stiffer brushes are better suited for acrylics than are the soft ones used for watercolour (generally speaking). If you take good care of your brushes (dampening them first) with the exception of a mop brush you may use your good watercolour brushes for acrylics. I prefer to use nylon or blended hair soft brush for detailing and the stiff hog hair for the more abusive techniques. Stay away from cheap dollar store brushes, buy quality; you will only be frustrated with them and

their hairs fall out too much. Beginners tend to start out with the wrong brush because they get into the detailing too soon. The shape of the brush used depends on the stroke you want and the size depends on the area you are covering. We all have our favourites. I buy at Wallack's and my faves are: filberts of all sizes, #6 nylon round and small sable shaders (*short brown wooden handle with Wallack's Muskoka Red Sable printed on it*).

For acrylic painting, begin with the large stiff brush and end with the small softer brushes. All brushes lose a certain amount of hair, leave the hair in [forever] or wait until dry and roll it out with your finger. To remove a hair from a watercolour painting never use your fingers or natural hair brush, use a synthetic brush to lift it out during the painting process (while wet) and you won't disturb your painting...try it, it works!

Meet Our Members

Jim Rowat



I started painting in the 1980's, taking courses in Smiths Falls that were offered by St. Lawrence College. These courses were given by Henry Vyfinkle, Marg Grothier, and Andrea Green. I became a member of the Smiths Falls Art Club at the same time and eventually held the position of President. Unfortunately this club is no longer in existence.

Upon retiring to Clear Lake, on the Rideau, I joined the R.L.A.A. in its second year of existence. I have greatly enjoyed the group and have served in many aspects of the club, including Advertising Chairman, Show Chairman, and Past President.

Watercolour is my medium of choice, but I have been experimenting with acrylics.

I hold a certificate in Fine Arts from St. Lawrence College and continue to enjoy painting with the weekly paint-in group.

The wonderful aspect of painting is you never stop learning. There is always an experience to surprise and inspire you to enjoy another magical moment in the joy of being an artist.

Below is an example of a painting that Jim has done.



News From the Members

Member Activities: Congratulations are in order for Sharon and Guy Cranston for the opening of their Art Gallery (*Gallery on Main*) in lovely downtown Westport. We wish you all the success with your new venture.

During October and November the following members exhibited their works of art at *Gallery Perth*: Linda Rush, and Wayne Williams.

Saying Goodby:



Long time member Bob Winkler has made the big move back to Nanaimo, BC to be closer to family.

If you could like to keep in touch with Bob he can be reached at:

Bob Winkler
c/o 152 Pryde
Nanaimo, BC
V9S 4P7

Email: bobwinklersr@gmail.com

We will miss you at our paint – ins.

Rideau Art Festival

Just a quick note – In the last issue I had mentioned that there were five members of our art group that had participated in the show. Mia Coupa, there were six in all. They were Bill Veale, Shirley Mancino, Wayne Williams, Mary Chaikowsky, Barb Lavoie, and Sharon Fox-Cranston.

Invitation:

Hello Ms. Mantha; My name is Ashley Weese and I am contacting you on behalf of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve. Our organizations work is dedicated towards the four pillars of sustainability: healthy environment, culture, society and economy; and we do this by networking local organizations and groups.

Currently our team is working on creating an on line database and map of Artists/Artisans within the biosphere area. This information would be used by individuals wanting to know what types of Artists/Artisans are in the region and where. I would like to know if you are interested, and/or any other members of the R.L.A.A., in being on our member list? There is no fee and your business would be included in the local Artists/Artisans section of our website for users to access.

If anyone is interested, please contact me at ashley@fabr.ca or visit our website www.fabr.ca.

Kindest regards,
Ashley Weese
Administrative Support
Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve
19 Reynolds Rd. RR1
Lansdowne ON K0E 1L0
www.fabr.ca
tel: (613) 659-4824
fax: (613) 659-4827



Obituararies



Vallentgoed, Stuart:

It is with great sadness that we have lost another member, and good friend of our club. Stu Vallentgoed passed away on Tuesday, November 24th.

Sherry would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who kept us in their hearts and prayers over the last few months. I don't know what we would have done without you. Stu was very grateful and humbled by the support we received and could not express enough how he felt. He was very proud to be included in this great group of people. Again, thank you for letting him know the friendship that was expressed. With my deepest regards, Sherry

Bottriell, Andrew:

Andrew passed away peacefully at the age of 55, in Vancouver, with his family at his side. He was a member of the club for just a short while, splitting his time between Vancouver, in the winters, and Christie Lake at his cottage in the summers. He last participated in the 2009 *Art on the Lawn Show* before heading to Vancouver.

Some Light Reading



Taken from the *Ottawa Citizen*



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Smiths Falls, ON K7A 4S6
(613) 283-6000
www.helenbenda.ca

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MEMBERSHIP WEB SITES

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www.helenbenda.ca
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www.Picturesncrafts.com
Peter Gillespie
www.petergillespie.ca
Shirley Mancino
www.shirleymancino.com
Wayne Williams
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Rose Wilson
www.rosewilson.ca

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Light maple with grey desk surface, cubbyholes, filing & storage drawers. Excellent condition. \$300 (Staples original price - \$600). Contact Judith 613-335-2032 or email images@kingston.net

***MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO YOU ALL***

The Paint-In is the official news-letter of the Rideau Lakes Artists Association, Westport, Ontario.

Our activities include water colours, oils, acrylics, computer assisted and other art mediums. We're located at the North Crosby Hall, North Crosby for our monthly meetings, which are scheduled for the second Friday of each month at 1 p.m. except February and July in which there are no monthly meetings held. For "Paint-in" schedule please see following. "Paint-outs" are organized several times a year as well as art trips and other events (see Program). The Association also hosts courses by known artists and sponsors exhibits and shows featuring members work.

To have your business card included in the newsletter for one year, send your card and a cheque for \$25 to the above address.

To find out about becoming a member call: Membership Chair, Claire Brouillard at: (613) 275-2433

Email Edition. All members with email addresses will receive their RLAA newsletters in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) Adobe Acrobat Reader. A "free" copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader may be downloaded from: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>






Members without email will continue to receive hard copies of the Newsletter at the monthly meetings.

Editor: Jackie Coldrey (613) 284-0462
Email randjcoldrey@sympatico.ca







Paint-In Calendar at North Crosby Hall







January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	 5	6	7	 8	9
10	11	12	 13	14	15	16
17	18	 19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	 27	28	29	30






February

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	 2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	 10	11	12	13
14	15	 16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	 24	25	26	27
28						

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	 2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	 10	11	 12	13
14	15	 16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	 24	25	26	27
28	29	30	 31			

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	 6	7	8	 9	10
11	12	13	 14	15	16	17
18	19	 20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	 28	29	30	