



# DuPage Art League School & Gallery

NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

## The New Normal is Happening in Stages

Letter from the president, Dan Anderson

Baby steps? Perhaps. But we are making progress. Kathy Szeszol and Ellen Rottsolk have come up with a way to put eight students in the big classroom while keeping them socially distanced and compliant with state-mandated guidelines. We also will be returning to a program of six classes per session instead of four starting with the Winter/Spring sessions. I wish we had more progress to report regarding the upgrade of our website and point of sale system, the one that will allow online registration for classes. It looks like we could be into beta testing by the time this newsletter gets published, but until the system is tested and debugged we will have to put up with a 20th Century system even though we are two decades into the 21st Century.

On the plus side, we have several relatively new additions to our teaching staff. With the coronavirus restrictions it has been difficult to introduce these newcomers to our members and other students. To help remedy this, we will be publishing a profile of a given instructor in this newsletter each month until they all are famous.

And finally, a word of caution. One of the students in an evening class has reported being harassed by teenagers in or near the parking garage across the street while getting in her car after dark. There was no direct contact between our student and the teenagers, but she was made uncomfortable by the situation. The incident has been reported to the Wheaton police and we are asking them to increase patrols around the area on nights when we have evening classes.

## Yuletide Treasures

Yvonne Thompson, Yuletide Treasures Chair

Remember this year that drop off of items for our holiday show is by appointment only. If you missed the first drop off, the second one will be Monday, November 30, 10.30AM-2PM. Once again, drop off is by appointment only.

## A Little Bit of History... Struggling Art League Goes Through its First Year with Flying Colors

Excerpts of a news article from the DuPage Press, July 23, 1959

About 80 artists in DuPage County have had a bonanza tossed into their collective laps – a place to work and show their artistic efforts in a building filled with creative memories and inspiring history. The DuPage Art League has acquired for its use the old building(1850's) in Warrenville which was once the studio of three famous men, Adam Albright and his twin sons, Ivan and Malvin. Adam, a well-known artist who lived nearby on Aurora Road was a painter of gentle subjects including children and pastoral scenes. The twins, for a great share of their lives worked together constantly. In 1944, Metro Goldwyn Mayer commissioned the brothers, at a cost of \$75,000, to do 4 pictures for Oscar Wilde's "Picture of Dorian Gray". While the structure, after more than a century, is still sturdy, there are major problems to be solved. What would look like a hopeless job to many a person is a challenge to this group. "We are simply delighted with our good fortune and the interesting things we have discovered", said Mrs. A. M. Jens Jr. of Glen Ellyn, Activities Director of the league.

# Gallery 1 – October – Folklore

Judged by Barbara Lipkin

## Best of Show

Janet Pearson-Strack, "Anyone Home?" Oil  
*Creative, dream-like theme, nice use of perspective to emphasize the floating, fantasy-like point of view.*

## Theme Award

Kannika Amorasak, "A Dove's Coronation Day," Oil  
*Very imaginative, nicely done.*

## Special Merit Awards

Dale Olsen, "Peony 6," Acrylic  
*Riveting composition, wonderful use of shadows.*

Valerie Lorimer, "Village in a Tree," Ink and Acrylic  
*Delightfully whimsical and complex design.*

Sue Thomas, "Harper's Ferry," Pastel  
*Lovely technique, the composition brings the viewer straight into the scene.*

## Merit Awards

Mary Ann Asan, "Bringing Springtime Smiles", Acrylic  
Pamela Mitroff, "Dramatic Sunflowers II", Watercolor  
Jesse Lee, "Moulin Rouge 1914"  
Margaret Bucholz, "White Stallion Following the Northern Lights," Colored Pencil  
Marge Hall, "Parker", Oil  
Robert Koch, "The Cow Jumped Over the Moon", Oil  
Don Purney, "The Red Door", Pastel  
Mary Dorrell, "Autumn Magic", Oil  
Cathy Raef-Dunnigan, "Austrian Village", Acrylic  
Judith Horsley, "Garden Nymph", Digital Photography  
Diana Nawrocki, "Venus Explosion", Stitchery  
Linn Eldred, "White Trillium", Acrylic



## Best of Show:

Janet Pearson-Strack, "Anyone Home", Oil



## Theme Award:

Kannika Amorasak, "A Dove's Coronation Day," Oil



## Special Merit:

Dale Olsen, "Peony 6,"  
Acrylic



## Special Merit:

Valerie Lorimer, "Village in a Tree," Ink and Acrylic



## Special Merit:

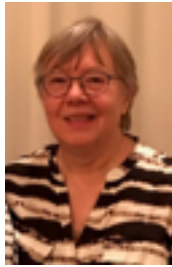
Sue Thomas, "Harper's Ferry,"  
Pastel

# Behind the Scenes at the DuPage Art League

## Sue Thomas, VP Activities

My job is to find artists to do demonstrations, keeping in mind the interests of Art League members and our community.

After settling on a date with the artist and a description of their program, we then discuss how to promote their program. I advertise the program in our Activities Book, newsletter, DPAL website, Facebook and Instagram. I keep in close contact with the artist to make sure the demonstration runs smoothly. I always take a few photos of the artist while they do their program to share with them and to put in our newsletter.



I graduated From Western Illinois University in 1978 with a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art, but settled on a career in Graphic Art. As technology changed over the years, I found myself wearing many different hats. Once I retired, I started to take classes at the Art League and got back to my roots in Fine Art. I've tried several different mediums but am mostly drawn to pastels.

## Member News

**Mary Lynn Sullivan** recently had her painting "Red Bistro Chairs" juried into the International Association of Pastel Societies 37th Juried Web Exhibition. The exhibit can be viewed at: [iapspastel.org/exiaps\\_current.php](http://iapspastel.org/exiaps_current.php)

She also had her painting "Red Water Tower" juried into the Chicago Pastel Painters Strokin' 8 Exhibition where it won an Award of Special Merit. This online exhibit can be viewed at: [chicagopastelpainters.org](http://chicagopastelpainters.org).

## Gallery 1 Information

### Margaret Bucholz, VP Exhibits (Gallery 1)

Pick-up for October Show is October 21-22. Early pick-up allows for those setting up for Yuletide Treasures.

Next members' show will be January 2021 - *Winter Wonderland*. Entry dates are January 6-7; pick-up dates are February 3-4.

## Board Notes



- The Art League painted a beautiful design on the front doors to participate in the Wheaton Windows Art Walk sponsored by the Downtown Wheaton Association.
- The board is working on getting an exhaust fan in the large classroom. A proposal was received but there were concerns about the way it was venting and Kay Wahlgren, who knows the building inside and out, believes there is a better way to vent by going through an outside wall. She is looking into it further.
- Sue Thomas reported that 80 people registered for the September program and 53 actually logged on. Those who signed up and didn't attend were sent a video of the program. The program is also available for viewing on the Wheaton Library website.
- Classes are under way with social distancing limits and a requirement to wear masks. Because of the limitations we are opening classes to members for registration a week before the schedule is released to non-members. Kathy Szeszol, Education VP, has found that we can actually accommodate 8 socially distanced in the large classroom, so we are going forward with that arrangement. The small classroom will still be limited to 6 students. The Winter Spring schedule will consist of 3 sessions with 6 weeks of classes in each session.
- Misty Alvis, VP of Publicity & Promotion, is already planning for the Christmas windows. They're going to involve both a display and paintings on the windows. Yvonne Thompson has over 30 participants in Yuletide Treasures and she's excited that she also has recruited volunteers to help with the show. There was a discussion about hours and when the gallery will be open and it was decided that we will continue to open at 10AM through Yuletide Treasures. The teachers are able to open the doors for classes that start earlier.
- The training schedule has not been set but we are getting ready to start training volunteers on the new computer system. There are still a few details to iron out about transferring the data from the former system to the new system, but we're getting closer.

## NEWSLETTERS/E-BLAST SUBMITTALS

### [vlorimer@yahoo.com](mailto:vlorimer@yahoo.com)

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: [vlorimer@yahoo.com](mailto:vlorimer@yahoo.com) and [copy susanjurkus@att.net](mailto:susanjurkus@att.net) by the 15th of the month.

Acceptable formats for submissions include Word documents or PDF files for text and 300dpi JPG for images). Please proof/verify your information before submitting. **Use minimal formatting; send photos, flyers, images as attachments to your email (not as part of the email body).**

The DuPage Art League does not discriminate nor tolerates harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, national origin, genetic information, or any other characteristic.

# Thank You!

Misty Alvis, VP Publicity & Promotions

Thanks to Wes Douglas for painting our doors. They sure look good and are informative too! Also thanks to Margaret Bucholz for helping boo-tify our windows!



# Getting to Know Wes Douglas

## What is your background?

My name is Wes Douglas and I have a 30-year career as art director, package designer and concept visualizer. I also co-founded an innovation consultancy in Elmhurst for the last 30 years. I have been involved with the Chicago chapter of Urban Sketchers since 2013 and I love to share what I have learned about sketching and have lots of fun in the process.

## How I became involved with The DuPage Art League

I have led demonstrations on urban sketching people for the DuPage Art League in Wheaton, the Kishwaukee Valley Art League, inspired art students with a demonstration on marker illustration at the American Academy of Art. In 2019 I joined the teaching staff of DuPage Art League coaching students on how to sketch the urban sketcher's way.

## What class do you teach?

I teach a new class called "This Is Urban Sketching" where I coach students on some techniques for sketching on location. If you are familiar with Plein Air Painting, urban sketching is similar in that we sketch on location from direct observation (no photos), with a portable set of art tools. What is unique about urban sketching is that, while it is often done outdoors, sketches can also be created indoors at coffee shops, restaurants, meeting rooms, and even inside of museums or on public transportation and not limited to the daytime lighting conditions.

## Why do you love teaching this class?

I love that moment when I can inspire a student to have an epiphany moment when a complex concept suddenly becomes crystal clear and their artwork is forever changed. Urban sketching is less about perfect renderings and more about gaining better observational skills, having a story to tell, and visual documentation of important moments in life.

Instagram: wheels317

Facebook: wdouglas3

## DPAL Board 2020-2021

President: Dan Anderson

Secretary: Sally Hines

Treasurer: Patricia Thorson

VP Activities: Sue Thomas

VP Building & Grounds: Chuck Showalter

VP Education: Kathy Szeszol; Workshops - Jen Schwab

VP Exhibits: Margaret Bucholz (gallery 1); Mary Lynn Sullivan (gallery 2)

VP Finance: Carol Kincaid

VP Membership: Sue Jurkus

VP Office Management: Sue Krzyzanowski

VP Publicity & Promotions: Misty Alvis

President Emeritus: Kay Wahlgren

Yuletide Treasures: Sherry Theilgaard, Liesl Mann, Yvonne Thompson

Newsletter: Valerie Lorimer | vlorimer@yahoo.com

MONDAY NIGHT OPEN PROGRAMS

# David E. Dallison

art Demonstration: Travel Plein air watercolor

Nov 16th 6:30 - 8:30pm



Enjoy a zoom studio tour to watch David demonstrate the creation of a watercolor as he would paint on the road in one of the 36 countries in which he has painted

Zoom link...[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_h4i6gT-RSWq-ON1SH2ONbw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_h4i6gT-RSWq-ON1SH2ONbw)

**dupageartleague**  
Gallery, School & Gift Shop



## Help Needed – Alliance of Fine Art (AFA) Liaison

AFA is currently meeting by Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month at 6PM. Meetings usually last 30 minutes. Attending the meetings is one way to take care of your volunteer commitment with DuPage Art League. This is a great way to network with other artists in other leagues to see what they are doing.

Seven winners from each league shows at the Best of the Best show to be held in May 2021. Each year the delegate would contact two local high school art departments to bring two high school art students to take part in the annual scholarship competition to be held in March. AFA presents four annual scholarships to deserving high school art students. This liaison position could be shared between two people, one to attend meetings, and another to contact high schools art departments. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Margaret Bucholz at [MargBucholz@comcast.net](mailto:MargBucholz@comcast.net).


## Review of September 21 Monday Night Open Program

Artist Michael Ireland stepped up and filled the date for another artist who was originally scheduled for September. He demonstrated large format watercolors in his studio. This was his first zoom demo. His paintings are so large that he could not complete one in two hours, so he shared it with us once completed. During his drying time Michael entertained us with his humor. Michael felt he has enough to share and asked to keep his demo date for next year, so stay tuned.



*The Shadow Greet the Light*

Note: If anyone registers for these Monday Night Programs and misses the program, the Wheaton Library will send you a link to view.

November 2020 Newsletter | Join us on Facebook 

218 W. Front Street  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
630.653.7090  
[dupageartleague.org](http://dupageartleague.org)

dupageartleague