

The Problem with February

Letter from the president, Dan Anderson

If you let your guard down, February can feel depressing. Most of us aren't thrilled with the weather in February. And then there's that long gap between holidays: From the Christmas/New Year's celebrations to Easter, unless you count Valentine's Day, which our granddaughter calls "Singles Awareness Day" (SAD for short).

But try focusing on the positive side. That brilliantly red cardinal against a backdrop of white snow is certainly a paintable moment. For you plein air buffs who enjoy painting with cold fingers, as of February 1 we will have gained almost an hour of daylight. And Valentine's Day is a wonderful holiday, even if you are just celebrating memories.

So, buck up art lovers. Every day brings us a day closer to being vaccinated. A day closer to when we can throw the doors wide open, go back to a full schedule of classes with a full complement of students, and admire the work of our classmates from closer than six feet. With a little luck (or more likely lots of luck) we'll get there by the end of February, at which point we will be thanking February for having only 28 days.

NEWSLETTERS/E-BLAST SUBMITTALS vlorimer@yahoo.com

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: vlorimer@yahoo.com and copy 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).

Yuletide Treasures... A Miracle on Front Street

Yvonne Thompson, Yuletide Treasures Chair

Thanks to everyone who had a part in this show and helped to make it such a great success. It is a miracle, because we actually exceeded 2019 sales by \$27 and sold nearly 50 more items. All this when we had reduced hours before Thanksgiving and dealing with COVID.

Every year people say, "Wow, this is a **lot** of work!" and it is, but we also have a **lot** of fun and a lot of hands to help pull this rabbit out of the hat. I cannot thank Misty Alvis, Wilda Kemp, Sue Jurkus, Liesl Mann and Sherry Theilgaard enough though. You guys were **incredible**!

Here are our "Top Ten" people who made the most sales. Thank you everyone...now start making for **next** year!

Sue Dix
Barbara Hollow*
Wilda Kemp
Valerie Lorimer
Liesl Mann
Ann Neuman*
Linda O'Connor
Irene Peterson
Yvonne Thompson
Deborah Young*

*denotes outside crafter)

Sad News

Dan Anderson, President

The League lost a good friend, fellow artist, and loyal student. I am sorry to say that Don Karrer has passed away. His gentle, kind, and fun personality will be missed by all but his smile will be with us forever.

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.

Gallery I – Winter Wonderland

Judged by Carmelo Schifano

Best of Show

Dale Olsen, "Diamonds of Winter," Acrylic Well-balanced elements of design. Nice movement of diagonal direction. Wonderful capture of light and shadow.

Theme Award

Janet Kloss, "Morning in Winter," Acrylic Very nice technical still static elements and principles of design. Excellent linear perspective. Lazy S zigzag movement. Great balance of shapes and values. Overall warm values pleasant.

Special Merit Awards

Margaret Bucholz, "Winter Wonderland," Watercolor Nice balance of elements of design. High key painting. Nicely done. Great direction of line (implied) movement thru warm color values. Wonderful atmospheric perspective.

Marge Hall, "Crystal Clear," Oil Very pleasant technical skill level. Nice warm values. Light to dark reflections. Nicely centered oil. Dark background.

Joan Kalmanek, "Wrapped in White," Photography Captured very nice depth of field. Zigzag direction of movement of light and dark values. Beautiful line. Vertical movement. Linear and atmospheric perspective. Well balanced.

Merit Awards

Laura Lucas, The Courage to Bloom, Colored Pencil Judy Ross, Quiet Morning, Pastel Sue Thomas, Blizzard Conditions,

Judith Horsley, Sunset Ice, Photography Valerie Lorimer, Watching it Snow, Mixed Media Sharon Peters, The Thaw, Oil Gregory Stall, Grey Squirrel, Colored Pencil Lori Tucker, Elk at Jackson Hole, Photography Susan McLean, January in Cartagena, Acrylic M. Kent Goebel, Arbor Creek, Oil Nancy Turner, Winter Vacation, Oil Mary Ann Asan, A Winter's Walk, Acrylic



Best of Show: Dale Olsen "Diamonds of Winter," Acrylic



Theme Award: Janet Kloss "Morning in Winter," Acrylic



Special Merit: Margaret Bucholz "Winter Wonderland," Watercolor



Special Merit: Marge Hall "Crystal Clear," Oil



Special Merit: Joan Kalmanek "Wrapped in White," Photography

Behind the Scenes at the DuPage Art League

Kay Wahlgren, President Emeritus



Kay Wahlgren is a graduate of the University of Illinois, magma com laude, with a BFA in Graphic Design. This includes 2 1/2 years of architectural engineering. A member of DPAL for more than forty years, she has served as VP Exhibits, VP Building and Grounds, VP Education and five terms as President, currently serving as Past President. Watercolor is her favored media which she teaches to both

beginning and advanced students. She helps hang the monthly gallery shows and will greet you with a happy smile when she staffs the front desk once a week.

Gallery I – February 2021: Sky's The Limit

Margaret Bucholz, VP Exhibits

Entry: February 3-4 | Pick-up: February 24-25

We would all love to see how the theme of this show has stretched the limit of your creativity. Drop off your artwork at DuPage Art League on Wednesday, February 3 or Thursday, February 4 between 9AM and 5PM. If you are able, take a picture of your piece and email it to Margaret Bucholz at Margbucholz@comcast.net by February 3. They will be put into a virtual slide presentation for posting on the website. Having a virtual presence has brought customers into the gallery to shop and buy art.

Each member artist may exhibit two pieces per month free of charge. A non-member pays \$10. If you have not renewed your membership yet, do so when you drop off your artwork. The second piece must be priced at \$125 or less and not exceed 25" inside frame dimensions (11x14). If a piece of artwork is sold, the member donates 25 percent of the sale price back to the league. Sales tax is the responsibility of the artists.

Our judge will be Tom Mahady. You can view Tom's artwork at ontheplanetart.com.



Image from Pixabay.com

Board Notes

January 14, 2021

 Treasurer Pat Thorson reported that we have received our annual grant for \$15,000 from the Driehaus Foundation.



Our income for classes last year was approximately half of what we would receive in a normal year. Yuletide Treasures, however, actually made more than last year at \$9,126. As Yvonne said it was really only a little higher but the fact that it was above last year at all was amazing. We had many customers who returned more than once, and the extraordinary window decorations might have attracted customers.

- Past President Kay Wahlgren is in charge of nominations for the board. She asked the board to help reach out to people. It's more difficult this year with the limited classes.
- Membership is behind last year but Membership VP Sue Jurkus is optimistic because it's early. If you haven't renewed, please call the art league or mail in your membership renewal.
- Sue Thomas, VP of Activities is continuing to work with artists for the upcoming programs on Zoom through the library.
 Presenters are given the option of being filmed at the league or at their studios.
- Kathy Szezslol, VP Education said the Session B classes will be posted in mid-February. Enrollment in Session A has been good and many classes are filled. We are working on posting videos of the instructors at work above the front desk.
- VP Publicity Misty Alvis talked about an Ice Sculpture Art walk and cocoa crawl being scheduled in downtown Wheaton. The board thought it was worth looking into it and finding out the details. Several people said that in the past this event has drawn a lot of onlookers who watch artists carve ice sculptures in front of local businesses.
- Yvonne Thompson, Business manager reported that training is continuing on the new POS system. She has created some videos and done some training online as well. It's getting closer!

Member News

Valerie Lorimer received a Merit Award for her piece Cha-Cha-Cha in the Naperville Art League's January Exhibit.

February 2021 | Gallery II **Exhibit**

Mary Lynn Sullivan, VP Exhibits



This month we are delighted to present the exhibit "Little Escapes" by Julie Skoda. She describes these as small studies, demos and larger paintings done while viewing the world from home during the early months of the pandemic. For her, 2020 inspired an opportunity to spend more time creating and experimenting with color, texture and subject matter.

Julie Skoda is an award-winning pastel artist from Western Springs. Her expressive landscapes and figures exhibit rich color and sensitive light. She is a signature member of the Chicago Pastel Painters and the Degas Pastel Society, an associate member of the Pastel Society of America and the Vice President of the Transparent Watercolor Society of America. She also teaches in-studio and online pastel painting classes. Her work can be viewed online at julieskoda.com.

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

A Little Bit of History...

Art League Plans Open House In New Location An article dated Feb. 10, 1966 from The DuPage Press

Members of the DuPage Art League are preparing to move their quarters on Saturday, Feb. 12, from the old Albright Studio in Warrenville to the Wheaton park district building at Main and Roosevelt Road, Wheaton, recently vacated by the YMCA. To climax the change and acquaint people with the new location, an open house will be held on the following Saturday, Feb. 19, from 1 to 3 PM. Highlight of the open house will be the winning of a painting contributed by Laura Duncan, a league member and well-known in art circles in the Chicago area. Many advantages were considered in the decision to move was made by a joint agreement of the Art League and Wheaton Park Board. It was felt that its location is more central in the county. In general, the building lends itself to class areas, work space and gallery walls for constant exhibits. It will, however, increase the financial burden of the league and a new committee, ways and means, has been organized, headed by Mrs. Richard Bender, to explore ideas along financial channels.





dupageartleague

with the Wheaton Public Library present

Art Demonstation: Pastel Winterscape

Embracing the Solitude of the Season

with Brian Sauerland - PSA, CPP-M www.sauerlandstudio.com





Awakening 9" x 12"



Upon the Creek Bed 16"x 12"



Rhythm & Blues 16" x 20"

Award-winning artist, **Brian Sauerland**, will discuss his process of working with pastels. He will demonstrate, via Zoom, how subtle shifts in color and value can create an impactful winter scene. Capturing the peacefulness of winter requires an understanding of the limits of photographic references, a loose hand, and a little inspiration.

Monday, February 15, 2021 - 6:30-8:30pm

Register for the Zoom webinar invitation:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jar1GOxUQYubgRCcOY6JjA



Inspiration Photo"Snow Panoramic Mountain" – Image courtesy of Ryan Hogg | pixabay.com

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