



February 2025

newsletter

Comments from our 2025

Board of Directors

Dear Members,

February is upon us. YAY!

Is that the excitement you feel when greeting the month of February? Or are you more inclined to burrow down in a hole, away from the wind and cold, peeking out only for a little glimpse of sunshine? I hope your choice is to seize the day (month)! Maybe you will emerge from your comfort zone and perhaps display a newly learned skill or technique by submitting a piece for a Gallery I exhibit. Or why not get to know someone new at one of our social events?

As VP of Activities for the DuPage Art League my responsibility is the coordination of various activities for the league. Thankfully, Sue Thomas is a very responsible and qualified co-chair, who is busy behind the scenes contacting artists for the upcoming monthly art demos at the Wheaton Public Library. Sue has a keen eye for all types of art and eagerly engages with new artists. Sue has a great line-up for us this year. This month features watercolor artist Joan Bredendick on February 17th. Attend live or virtually. <https://www.wheatonlibrary.org/event/art-demo-tbd-87002>.

My area of focus is with social events for the league. Next month we will host a social event on March 2nd for our 2024/2025 new members. We are hopeful the event will encourage new members to really feel like they are a part of the league by learning about its history, the gallery exhibits, regulations, local opportunities for artists, and ways to volunteer. We'd also like to offer an occasion to ask questions, all while getting to know other members.

New members can be on the lookout for an email invitation to the March 2nd social within the next few days. If you are a long-time member and feeling left out, consider volunteering to help with the event. I will gladly find something for you to do.

Regards,
Adele Dunn, VP Activities
Dpalactivities@gmail.com

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

The 2025 Elections are in MID APRIL.

Anyone with an accounting background is invited to consider the position of treasurer. We need you! See Page 5 for details.



Reminder for 2025--

All Gallery I exhibiting members are expected to volunteer at or for the DPAL for a minimum of four hours per year. Call 630-653-7090. We'll connect you with someone in your area of interest!



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Board Meeting Notes - January

Treasurer's Report: Jennifer Bayer said we are in good shape. Income for the period was more than budget but was offset by lower enrollments in fall session A and B and winter session A. We have 18 months of reserves.

Membership: Amy Tran reported that the 2025 membership is currently 304.

President: Mary Lynn Sullivan reviewed the objectives of the Strategic Plan and spoke about the plans to continue to reach our goals.

2025 DPAL Board Elections

The DPAL Board elections will be held in mid April. Per the DPAL Bylaws the following are filled in odd years: Secretary, Treasurer, Activities, Membership, Building and Grounds and Media and Public Relations. Officers are elected for two year terms and may succeed themselves once.

A committee consisting of the President Emeritus, another Board member (who is not up for election) and two non-Board members, try to find appropriate members to serve on the Board.

If any member who has accounting experience should contact Jennifer Bayer, the current treasurer for a detailed description of the background and skills needed for this important position.

Occasionally, a Board member has cause to resign during his or her term. When this happens, the president appoints a member to finish the term. The appointee is then eligible to run for that office for an additional two terms.

The tentative nominations for 2025 are as follows:

Secretary: Maeva Cook
Treasurer: OPEN
Activities: Adele Dunne
Membership: Maryann Starozik
Building and Grounds: Mark Galli

Thank you,
Diana Mitchell, President Emerita, diamitc4@aol.com

Newsletter/E-Blast Submittals

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: dpalmembershipt@gmail.com by the 15th of the month.

Acceptable formats include Word documents or PDF files for text and 300dpi .JPG form images. Please proof and verify your copy before submitting. Send photos, flyers and other images as attachments to email.

Gallery I Exhibits for 2025

February: Shades of Winter. Let the cool colors and crisp air inform your palette. Drop off Jan 29-30.

March: Women's History Month. Celebrate women past, present, famous, familia. Drop off Feb 26-27.

April: Tell Me a Story. Art that tells a story inspired by favorite book or movie. Drop off Mar. 26-27.

May: Blossoming. Capture the abundance of spring blooms and summer's bounty. Drop off April 30-May 1

June: Volunteer Show -- The Art of Everyday Entry by Invitation Only. Drop off May 28-29

July: Water and Waves; Be inspired by the art of Hokusai and Japanese art, on view this summer at the Cleve Carney Museum. Drop off June 25-26.

August: Best of the Best. Winnings artworks from art leagues in the area.

September: Windows of the Soul. Express yourself with the idea of a self-portrait. Drop off August 27-28.

October: Chasing the Light. As days shorten, shows lengthen and fall colors shine.

DPAL Board 2025

President: Mary Lynn Sullivan
Secretary: Maeva Cook
Treasurer: Jennifer Bayer
VP Activities: Adele Dunn
VP Building & Grounds: Mark Galli
VP Education: Margaret Bucholz
VP Exhibits: Gallery I: Danielle Crilly
Gallery II: Mary Ann Staroscik
VP Finance: Carol Kincaid
VP Media: Mary Kate Venturini
VP Membership: Amy Tran
VP Office Management: Barbara Finn
VP Publicity & Promotions: OPEN
VP Safety & Security: Darlene Edwards
Presidents Emeritae: Diana Mitchell and Carol Kincaid
Yuletide Treasures: Yvonne Thompson and Wilda Kemp
Newsletter: Lori Tucker
dpalmembershipt@gmail.com

Gallery I January -- Four-Legged Friends

Judged by: Rhonda Levy



Best of Show - Dan Danielson "BFF"
Watercolor



Best Theme - Johana Rebman "Hiding"
Colored Pencil



Special Merit - Fran Puglise "Harry Grant ..." Soft Pastel



Special Merit - Chris Hughes "Dog Walk" Acrylic



Special Merit - Jan Kloss "Tina's Coco Dog"
Acrylic

Notes from the judge: *"Difficult to make choices! I did enjoy all the entries! Strong show. I was drawn to the animals within a certain environment or locale. Excellent technique and sophistication in so many entries."*

MERIT AWARDS

Nancy Anderson	Lucy
Tom Finn	Watchful Mom
Barb Finn	Jaco
Gail Korallus	Lyca
Adele Dunn	Tatanka
D. Nawrocki	Mates Forever

soft pastel
scratchboard
soft pastel
charcoal
soft pastel
textile

MERIT AWARDS

Kelly Sebold
Darlene Edwards
Valerie Lorimer
Lori Tucker
Diane Kehoe
Dawn Halter

Halye
Controlled Chaos
Winter Pals
Chayce
Chic
Collaboration

pastel
mixed media
mixed media
oil
clay
acrylic

Gallery II February Solo Exhibit

Watercolor Meets Scratchboard

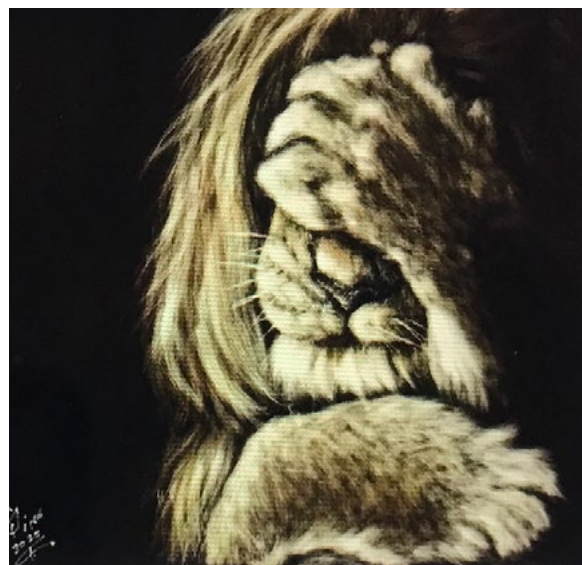
Artist -- Tom Finn

by: Maryann Staroscik

Tom has loved art all his life, always finding ways to amuse others with his creative drawings and posters. After graduating from high school (where art classes were not offered) he entered the American Academy of Art in Chicago, where he was able to develop his talent and discover a new direction in his life. Tom was soon working in the world of commercial art and advertising, eventually starting his own business in 1980.

When Tom and his wife, Barb were newly retired in 2017, they were seeking a way to fill their new found free time. As fate would have it, they met a Plein Air painter in Churchill Woods during a summer walk, who told them about the DuPage Art League. They soon became active members, enrolling in classes with Ellen Rottsoik and Dan Danielson. Tom took a special interest in watercolor and a new hobby was born, plus a spare room in the house was converted for artistic pursuits and all the many supplies that come with it.

In addition to watercolor, Tom decided to try his hand at scratchboard art – a skill briefly touched on back in art school. This new passion has grown, as he continues to add new tools for etching and often uses watercolor to enhance his subjects. He has created roughly 200 scratchboards to date, with many given to family and friends.



Both Tom's watercolors and scratchboards have won awards at the Art League in the past three years, including Merit, Theme, and Best of Show awards. He and Barb also displayed their works together at a joint exhibit in Gallery 777 at the Lisle Public Library.

There will be a show highlighting the works of Tom Finn on February 9th from 2:00-4:00 at the DuPage Art League Gallery II. Please plan on attending this beautiful exhibit and meet the artist in person.


*Happy Valentine's
Day*

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Activities and Exhibits and More

Help Wanted – A New Need for a New Year

Many of us may wonder how we can use our talents to give back to the DuPage Art League, which offers so much in the way of friendship, artistic growth and camaraderie. For those of you who would prefer to do your volunteer hours from home, please consider becoming the bookkeeper.

As bookkeeper, you will have the chance to discover more about how non-profit organizations work, hone your computer skills and work closely with Treasurer Jennifer Bayer and Business Manager Yvonne Thompson.



The position involves comfort with computer applications, working in Microsoft Excel, downloading data from the DPAL website, entering financial data into QuickBooks Online, preparing checks and supporting board members with data requests. Attention to detail and willingness to learn new computer technology are cornerstones for this role. Your personal computer and printer will be used. Accounting experience is a plus.

If you love to learn, want to use your talents to support the league and can devote 8-12 hours per month, please contact Jennifer at (630) 991-0309 or leave a message at the front desk.

Artwork by Sue Krzyzanowski

will be displayed in the lobby of Lilac Station Luxury Residences in Lombard through the month of February.

There will be a gallery wall of 12 artworks.

Lilac Station is located at, 101 S Main St, Lombard.

News from *Yuletide Treasures* and the Gift Shop

- Yvonne Thompson

First to all of you all who helped with Yuletide Treasures THANK YOU! You all made the mammoth task easier. We unfortunately had a bit of a disappointing final figure of \$9,750, but it seems holiday shows this year all seemed to take a hit. Last year was the best year we ever had and we soared in with \$13,750. But saying that, this year was still a super show, and we sold almost a 100 more items than last year.

Our top ten sellers in alphabetical order were:

Margie Fazio	Nancy Matson
Jennifer Hauser	John Riss
Barbara Hollow	Nancy Thevenot
Wilda Kemp	Yvonne Thompson
Kathi Kuchler	Debbie Young

It has come to my notice that the barcoded price labels need to be changed as our truly wonderful front desk angels prefer to use your name and code to find you on the computer screen. This is music to my ears, and hopefully yours too, as you will be able to now print your own labels from home! I will continue to print labels if you need them and in fact eventually I hope to have a binder with extras in for you all. I can now send you a .pdf of your labels. They use a sheet of return address labels, 80 to a page. Each label is ½" H x 1 ¾" W. Avery has 5139, 5167 and 5267 that will all fit. The format will look like this,

301_THY #	GIFT SHOP
THOMPSON,Y	\$

and you can see there is room for you to write your inventory number and price.

Please also note that all present labels on stock will need to be changed in the next couple of months, so let me know I you if you need price/artist code labels and dispose of any barcoded ones you have.

Thanks, Yvonne

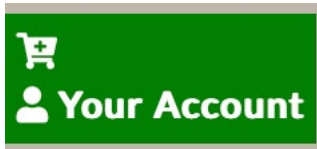
Little computer “light bulbs”

By Yvonne Thompson

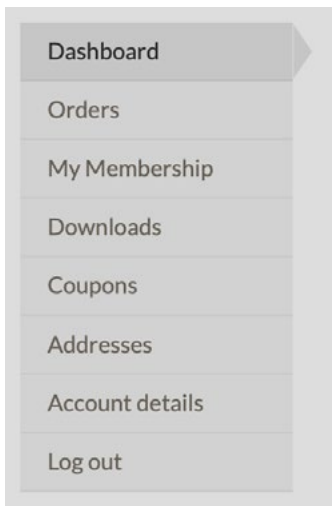
I’ve started a little string of articles to help you with problems you may have with navigating the website.

Did you know you can find out your pass purchase history by going to your profile on the website? I bet you didn’t!

First you must **sign on and use your password** to gain access to your account, just like you do when signing up for a class. In the upper right corner you’ll see the shopping cart with “Your Account” underneath it



Click on Your Account and you will see your Dashboard come up on the left.



Click on Orders and you will see all your past purchases. Under “Actions” you’ll see “view”. Click on that and you will see your purchase. It will also tell you when you have received a refund!

Look for next month’s column and I’ll shed a little more light for you!

Safety Seconds - A few seconds can make a big difference

By Darlene Edwards, VP Safety and Security

Art Material Safety – Part One - take that extra second to check the label.

In the world of art and creativity, the safety of materials used is of utmost importance. Understanding the toxicity levels of artistic materials is essential for both artists and those who may come into contact with these works.



Toxicity refers to the potential harm or danger that a substance can cause when it is ingested, inhaled, or comes into contact with the skin. Art supplies, including paints, often contain chemicals that can be toxic if used improperly or in excessive amounts.

It is crucial to understand the possible risks associated with toxic art supplies to ensure the safety and well-being of artists, especially those who work with these materials regularly.

To ensure the highest safety standards, non-toxic art supplies often carry certifications like the AP (Approved Product) Seal from the Art and Creative Materials Institute (ACMI) and conform to ASTM D-4236, which guarantees they have been reviewed by a toxicologist and deemed safe for use. Checking for these labels can help artists and consumers make informed choices about the safety of art supplies.

Create Safely!



DPAL STUDENT IS PUBLISHED! A LETTER FROM HIS MOM

Hi Mrs. Zeuch,

I wanted to pass along some exciting news. Will Nakashima has enjoyed so many of your classes at DuPage Art League over the last few years. We love displaying his work in our home. He was especially proud of his snowman he made last year in your class. We submitted it to Highlights magazine, and it was published in this December's edition. He wanted me to share the good news with you.

Thank you for sharing your talent and knowledge with the kids! He is just thrilled about this and is looking forward to taking more classes!

Happy New Year,
Katy Nakashima

A New Teacher at DPAL: Darlene “Weeze” Edwards

Darlene Edwards has joined our team of teachers for the next session starting the week of February 24. She will be teaching **“Acrylic Paint Pouring – A Type of Fluid Art.”** Scheduled for Thursday Afternoons from 1-3:30 pm for adults and from 4:30 – 6:00 pm for Kids ages 8-14. Acrylic pouring is an abstract fluid art technique. It consists of pouring different color paints over a surface. The entire canvas is then tilted to allow the paint to flow in different directions to cover the edge of the canvas. Create amazing abstracts using various paint pouring techniques including flip cup, dirty pour, swipes, ring pours and others. Understand how to achieve the correct paint consistency for the type of pour you are doing and the various ways to manipulate the paint.

Darlene “Weeze” Edwards, an artist rooted in Wheaton, Illinois, draws her inspiration from the constants of family and nature. Raised in a lively household with five brothers, Weeze’s artistic inclinations were nurtured early on by her mother, a successful artist who continues to inspire at the age of 92.

Weeze’s artistic journey began as a tender exploration with her mother, which fostered a love for creation that only grew with time. This familial bond laid the foundation for her artistry, instilling a profound appreciation for the world’s aesthetics. Her journey transformed into a more formal pursuit, as Weeze continually refined her skills through diverse educational avenues both in traditional classrooms and online, exploring the vast possibilities within mixed media.



Her professional evolution saw a fascinating convergence of art and industry. In what she fondly refers to as the “last and best chapter” of her career, Weeze was introduced to the remarkable textures and materials of USG building supplies. This unique exposure has left a lasting impact on her work, incorporating these unconventional elements with innovative flair.

Weeze’s art has graced numerous platforms, including the respected DuPage Art League and the Oh Arts Gallery, where her work has received several merit awards in various shows. Her involvement with these artistic communities underscores her commitment to her craft and situates her within a vibrant network of fellow artists, continuously fostering growth and inspiration.

Weeze’s artistic journey continues to unfold with clear aspirations: to create art that resonates deeply and to contribute to the role of art in society as a powerful medium of connection and expression. Through her dedication and unique perspective, she underscores the timeless relevance of art in illuminating the beauty of nature, the warmth of family, and the boundless possibilities that lie within everyday life.

Click this link to see Weeze’s Virtual Art Exhibit: posted by the Wheaton Public Library:

<https://youtu.be/bYFZ9ZroKIo>

Darlene also serves on the DPAL Board as the VP Safety and Security. See page 7 for her recent article.



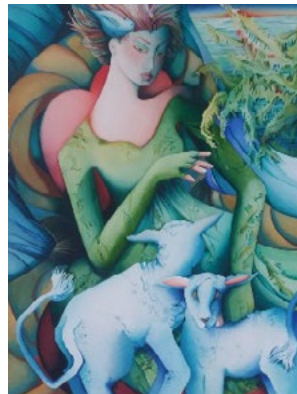
dupageartleague
Gallery, School & Gift Shop

Art Demo: **Joan Bredendick**

A NON-TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO WATERCOLOR

Monday Feb.17th 6:30 to 8:30pm / LIVE AND VIRTUAL

Joan's beginning watercolor painting process is as important as the actual painting. Early stages include sketchbook ideas, value and color studies, tracing paper drawings, finishing with a buildup of glazes. See how Joan demonstrates how she creates pattern and texture.



Register to attend in-person or via Zoom:
<https://www.wheatonlibrary.org/event/art-demo-tbd-87002>



Provided by Wheaton Public Library in partnership with DuPage Art League.
225 N. Cross St., Wheaton Meeting Room A