

Olympia Art League Newsletter

April 2016

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MEETINGS—3rd Thursday of the month

Next Meeting:

April 21, 2016

Location: Faith Lutheran Church

7075 Pacific Ave SE

Lacey, WA 98503

Time:

6:30 PM Socializing & Art Display

(stands available at the Dollar Store—bring some)

7:00 Business Meeting

7:30 Speaker Demonstration



This month's speaker...

MOLLY MURRAH

Molly Murrah is an experienced, freelance graphic designer and watercolor artist who has lived and worked in the Seattle area since 1982. After graduating from Bucknell University in Pennsylvania a fine art major, Molly was employed at three New York City design companies working on various projects for corporate clients.

Her experience includes designing, producing and managing integrated marketing, corporate identity, advertising, and sales promotion campaigns. She has also designed over 40 children's books.

Her first experience with watercolors was on a painting trip to Greece in 1997 with local artist, Caroline Buchanan. She has studied with other well-known watercolor artists and instructors including Deanne Lemley, Kay Barnes, Ted Nuttall, Thomas Schaller, Mark Mehaffey, Donna Zagotta and Janet Rogers.

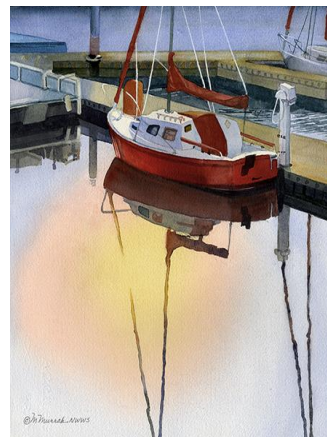
Molly has created several courses that she offers to artists and budding artists. One is a half-day seminar on how to work with digital media. She also created and taught two online webinars to a combined total of 2,000 beginning watercolor students from around the world. Locally she teaches classes and workshops at Daniel Smith Artists' Materials in Bellevue, Cole Gallery in Edmonds, and Tsuga Gallery in Bothell, WA.

A Signature Member of the Northwest Watercolor Society (NWWWS) — one of the top watercolor societies in the country — Molly was the society's 2013-2014 President and is currently involved in various marketing, website and workshop activities, including the design and production of a 128-page retrospective book on the society.

Molly's strengths as an artist lie in composition, color harmonies, and the representation of light. These skills have been greatly influenced — and honed — by her years of experience as a graphic designer. Continuing to work as both a designer and artist, Molly finds the balance between the two very fulfilling and always engaging

Of her work, Molly says, "My main goals for each painting are to design an engaging composition, select harmonious colors, achieve dramatic contrasts between lights and darks, and create a mood or feeling that draws in the viewer. If I convey this in my work, then I have succeeded in my artistic expression."

Check out her website: www.mollymurrah.com



OLYMPIA
art LEAGUE
Since 1945



Lakefair Juried Art Show ... an Artistic Opportunity

While having family and friends allows us to feel loved and appreciated, our support groups often cripple our advancement as an artist. Family and friends will rarely tell us that our work is awful even if they think so. They will tell us how marvelous our work is and how talented we are, mainly to be encouraging and polite. It is easy to start believing that we are great artists if we listen to those we love. How can we understand where we really are in our art journey?

The solution is to see our work next to other artists' works. Only then can we see our work in proper context. I am not referring to where we stand in the art world pecking order! This is about seeing how we can improve our own work and identify the direction in which we want to go.

A mixed art juried show is the perfect venue for this self-realization. We need to provide constructive criticism for **ourselves** and this happens when our art hangs with those of others. What may seem pretty good at home takes on a whole new view hanging in an art show!

The success of an art piece is determined by its ability to connect with others. Not every art viewer can buy, but everyone can show interest if a painting engages them. Enter a juried art show and watch your art at work. Observe what people do when they get near your art. Do they walk by....or stop. If they stop to look and linger for a while you will know you have attracted their attention and made a connection.

Acknowledging that our art skills could be better is the first step to progress. Find art in the show that you think is better than yours and ask why and learn. Other artist's work can encourage and motivate us to improve, enabling us to grow.

Participating in exhibitions of any size will give us focus. Having a deadline and goal will help us to be productive artists. Without a time deadline our mental masterpieces languish and never become reality. The 2016 Lakefair Juried Show has a deadline of May 27th. A juried show requires that you submit your very best art. The prospectus is available on our website: olympiaartleague.com under Activities/ Annual Juried Show. Let's get those creative juices flowing!

Roxana



Lakefair 2016 Juried Art Show

Call for Artists' Entries

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

May 27, 2016

PROSPECTUS AVAILABLE AT

www.olympiaartleague.com



Show Location
GOVERNOR HOTEL

July 7 - July 23

612 Capitol Way, Olympia, WA



Our next Think Tank will be Tuesday April 12th at 2:00 PM, Hagggen's (the old Top Food) on Olympia's west side.

Roxana will be there to greet and visit. Members are encouraged to socialize, talk art, and think up terrific ideas to make OAL a more amazing art club

OAL Online Gallery

The online gallery is in the process of getting ready to publish. Anyone that wants to have a presence in the member gallery needs to send me three of their favorite artwork plus an artist statement of no more than 150 words. If you have a website or Facebook page be sure to include that information in the artist statement.

Send to me at rickdartist@gmail.com. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me and I'll help anyway I can.

Thanks,

Rick Drescher

Subscribe to Stephanie Johnson's **Art Digest** for upcoming local events. To join her email list write to her at City of Olympia: sjohnso1@ci.olympia.wa.us



Roxana introducing Ethan in front of two of his pieces



Ethan at work on his portrait demonstration

MARCH SPEAKER--ETHAN HARRINGTON

The fun and artistic energy was palpable as Ethan Jack Harrington painted an oil portrait of his model Jennifer during the March Olympia Art League meeting. Ethan laughed and enjoyed himself as he quickly covered his canvas with thin oils. The paints were mixed with Gamblin, a solvent-free gel that helps the oils dry quickly. As the painting began to "speak" to him he used thicker paint applications for detail and texture. Ethan's pallet is limited and he painted the entire painting with just one #10 Bright oil brush.

It was hard to believe that Artist Harrington had once been a shy painter. As a younger painter painting at night, away from too many prying eyes, Ethan developed a wonderful understanding of the importance of value in composition. Today he still would rather paint Plein Air and he uses the outdoor public contact to promote his art. Painting from actual objects rather than from photos allows Ethan to use the spatial relationship between himself and his subject to determine colors, temperature and perspective.

Ethan encouraged the OAL members to ask questions and we learned about his youth and painting history as he talked and painted. When asked what subjects sell best Ethan Harrington said, "Whatever you love at the moment and put lots of energy into will sell! Buyers can feel the excitement of that energy and they will love it too."

Thank you Ethan..... for coming all the way down from Seattle to share your talent and love of art with our group.

Reminder: Ethan Jack Harrington now teaches a class entitled "Plein Air with Attitude" both locally and abroad.

Check out his website--<http://ethanjackharrington.blogspot.com/>



Associated Arts of Ocean Shores
April 22, 23, 24 - Annual Juried Show & Open Show
Ocean Shores Convention Center - Ocean Shores, WA

You can still enter the Open Show! Go to the group's website to get the Open Show Prospectus from :
http://associatedarts.org/2016_aaos_fine_art_photography_show/printable_prospectus_juried_and_open



The Barn nursery is having their Spring Fling on May 1, 2016. OAL artists are welcome to show & sell their art. No fee/ No commission. For a spot contact Carla O'Neill at

dcneill@comcast.net

OAL MORNING PAINT-IN

Join us at the Morning Paint Ins!

Time: The group meets Thursdays 9AM-Noon.

Location: Karen Crate's community clubhouse in Thunderbird Village
716 Dennis St. SE in Tumwater

Bring what you are working on and join other artists at work.

Call or email for more info: **Karen Crate**
wkcrate@comcast.net 360-943-1827

Water Color Critique Group



The Watercolor Critique Group meets on the second Friday of each month. This month's meeting is **April 8th from 1:00 to 2:30PM**. The location will be Timberline Baptist Church 6628 Mullen Rd SE in Lacey.

If you paint with watercolor, we invite you to join this helpful, supportive & often inspiring group. Bring current work or a 'problem child' that's been set aside waiting for resolution to present itself.

Questions? Call or e-mail:
Jo Anne Sanford
360-878-8225
san3jo@comcast.net

OAL EVENING PAINT-IN



Diana Fairbanks' Studio
Thursdays 6:30-8:30PM
1230 E 8th Ave Olympia

For more info contact :
Karen Bush 360-455-8176

***"All mediums and people are welcome.
\$5 charged to help pay utilities."***



Abstract Critique Group

The Abstract Critique Group meets monthly on the third Wednesday afternoon of the month. The next meeting is **Wednesday April 20th from 1 PM to 3:30 PM** at the home of Jo Anne Sanford, 7039 – 41st Ave. SE, Lacey.

After brief introductions, we do a gentle critique of each other's work and share information about classes, books, artists or teachers that have inspired us. Bring a few works to share—all experience levels and mediums welcome.

Please RSVP to the host. For more information about the group contact Linda Selsor at 491-0377 or via e-mail at lselsor@msn.com

**Art Note: Image is one of Linda Selsor's "Mini-digi-stracts"*

Plein Air Paint Outs Coming In May...



We're looking for ideas for paint out locations from **YOU**...

- Discovered any new scenic get- a- ways?
- Have favorite places you want to revisit?
- Any other ideas to make our outings more enjoyable?

Please get your **input to Jo Anne Sanford ASAP** so we can publish the schedule in the May newsletter. (see contact info next column) To check out last year's schedule go to:

<http://www.olympiaartleague.com/wp-content/uploads/OAL-2015-PAINT-OUT-LOCATIONS.pdf>

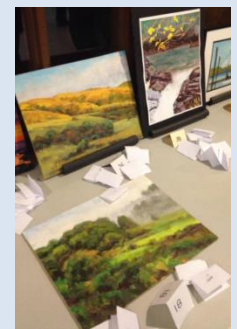
Thanks--Jane King, Chair

GETTING ACQUAINTED... Each month we'll feature several of our members as a way to help get to know one another. This month we're introducing three of our newest members—all joined within the last several months. 5

Kerry Molineux recently retired from a teaching career and moved to Olympia to be closer to family. She's taking Anita Ellison's watercolor classes at the Olympia Senior Center. "I am excited and inspired to try lots of new things and learn as much as I can from others." Although a calligrapher, lapidary artist and beader in the past, her preferred medium for the moment is watercolor. "The beauty of the natural world inspires me the most. My artistic style is realism, but I am working on loosening up and becoming more impressionistic, hoping it leads to becoming a better watercolor artist." You can reach Kerry at: kimolineux@gmail.com



Photo Highlights from March Meeting



Jeff Pasek moved to Olympia from Ohio about a year and a half ago. After a decade working as a graphic designer, he decided to focus on his passion for fine art. He went back to school to earn his MFA in painting. "I work mainly in acrylics and most often paint intuitively, abstractly and expressively. Whether my goal is a figure or a landscape, I am most interested in the things I don't plan. I try to follow the painting where it leads me and love to be surprised by what takes shape. You can see examples of Jeff's work at jeffpasek.com.



Upon retirement **Bhupen Shah** decided to go back to his childhood dream of becoming an artist. After just one painting class he was hooked on oils. He's mostly self-taught and is an avid reader and collector of art books and magazines. "I'm drawn to Impressionist style paintings, particularly Renoir and Monet. My wife has been my inspiration, companion, critic, fellow vagabond and model throughout my quest for art." His subject matter includes family portraits and more recently figurative and Romantic paintings. He's published several art books and had two solo exhibitions at the Jubilee Lodge in Lacey. Check out his website: www.accidentalartist.com



**Chances to strut your stuff....
LOCAL OAL SPONSORED ART VENUES**



**New Business Sponsor...
Cooper Point Public
House**

OAL's first show at Cooper Point Public House went up March 1st. Due to the owner's aesthetic preferences and space limitations, we'll be doing smaller, themed shows at this venue. The current show has a water theme and features eleven of our members' works. Rick Drescher, show chair, would like to thank all the artists who contributed art and helped work out the kinks with the first hanging at this location.



Congratulations to Alice Lou who sold a piece to one of Cooper Pointe's regular customers less than an hour after the show went up. As is the practice at our other business sponsored art shows, patrons interested in purchasing art contact the artist directly to make arrangements for payment and pick up of artwork.



Please support our business patrons. Stop in at **Cooper Pointe Public House** located at **3002 Harrison Avenue in Olympia**, for breakfast, lunch, dinner, great craft beers & appetizers. Rick can vouch for the great food, "they prepare fresh made from scratch foods and have a friendly staff."



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**Art Display at
Capitol Chiropractor
1728 State Ave NE, Olympia**

A new display of OAL members' art went up at Capitol Chiropractor (near Ralph's Thriftway) last month. Please thank our sponsor with your patronage. The paintings usually hang for a few months at a time. If you are interested in displaying some of your work at our next switch out, contact:

Lone Moody
lmoody@comcast.net
360-357-5249

BONSAI WOK Teriyaki Art Display

OAL art is at the **Bonsai Wok Teriyaki*** restaurant, in Tumwater at 408 Cleveland Ave. SE. Please thank our generous sponsor by taking your family to eat at Bonsai Wok Teriyaki.

Contact Anne-Marie Brown if you want to participate at the next art refresh:
(360) 867-3270 or
anniebrownie123@yahoo.com

***Bonsai Wok** is located in the same shopping center as the Safeway at the corner of Cleveland and Capitol.

**Cooper Pointe Theme for June Show....
ALL THINGS "RUSTIC"**

The theme for the next art hanging at Cooper Pointe Pubic House will be **rustic**--old buildings like barns, houses and shacks. It could also include the inside of old buildings or old rusted vehicles.--anything that would fall under that description will work. There is room for 11 pieces. Start painting now!!

Workshops and classes...

Ann Breckon—Watercolor in Olympia

The theme of Ann Breckon's classes this month is Storm Light -- painting the drama of the sunbreak after a dark storm. This special light is stunning and we'll be trying our hand at barns & rainbows. Feel free to bring your own photos. Painters of all experience levels are welcome! We have a great group of supportive and wonderful artists.

Dates: April 11th & 25th (2nd and 4th Mondays)

Time: Noon-3

Location: First Christian Church - 701 Franklin Street SE (7th and Franklin) Olympia, WA. You may park under the building.

Tuition: \$35 per session—pay at the start of class on each day.

Contact: Karen Crate 360-943-1827 or wkcrate@comcast.net



Cal Capener Oil Painting Class

Saturday

April 30, 2016

Cal Capener will teach his monthly class on Oil Painting, **Saturday, April 30th from 9:00AM until 3:30PM** (9AM start time for beginners and 10AM for more advanced students). April's class will cover basics and focus on knife work, water, and seascapes. Newcomers and beginners are welcome.

Cost: \$60 with your own materials --\$65 if you use Cal's

Location: Class is held at the Diane Fairbanks Studio, 1230 8th Ave., S.E. Olympia.

Contact: Call Cal at 360-491-0704 to register or contact him by email at: cccnac@msn.com



Rebecca Wild Olympia Workshop 2-Days in May



"Layering Arts and Letters"

Wednesday-Thursday, May 4 & 5, 2016

9:30am to 4:00pm in Elizabeth's Red Room Studio

Walsh residence, 3029 Hoffman Road SE, Olympia

\$110 (plus \$18 materials fee)

Explore rewarding new techniques that combine art with words. Working on small format paper, we combine drawing materials, paint and various resists with handwriting (no matter how readable) and self-crafted letterforms to create richly layered pieces that have a striking, print-like quality. All techniques link together allowing endless opportunity for individual expression. You will complete this class with fresh ideas, heightened enthusiasm, and a hand-constructed portfolio of your work. All levels welcome! **Space is limited for this workshop, so please sign up by April 26th.** Contact Elizabeth at (360) 456-4373 or abcdelizabeth@comcast.net.

NEW CLASSES BEGINNING IN APRIL & MAY!!

South Puget Sound COMMUNITY COLLEGE

South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) Continuing Ed offers classes in the arts. Register online or call 360-709-2020. Venues: Arbutus Folk School, Mottman Campus, Shipwreck Beads, Larry Miller Woodshop, and the new Lacey Campus (4220 6th Ave SE Lacey, WA).

www.spscc.edu/cce



**Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation
offer great art classes:**

www.olympiawa.gov/experienceit

or call 360-753-8380

LEAGUE EXPLORING WORKSHOP SPONSORSHIP

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 OAL Juried Show: Roxana Caples, Trisha Gooch
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 Local OAL Art Show Venues:
Bonsai: Anne-Marie Brown
Capitol Chiropractic: Lone Moody
Cooper Pointe Public House: Rick Drescher
 Paint Out: Jane King, Jo Anne Sanford
 Paint In Day: Karen Crate
 Paint In Night: Karen Bush
 Recruiter: Roxana Caples

Olympia Art League Newsletter

April Editor: Linda Selsor
 Contributors: Members of the Olympia Art League
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 This an official publication of the Olympia Art League

Want to take a class or workshop you can't find locally? Olympia Art League is exploring sponsorship of workshops. An exploratory committee has been formed but, before we dive in we'd like some member input. We want to:

1. Check in with you to see if there's enough interest, and
2. Collect your ideas about specific classes you'd like to take. These might include particular artists, skill enhancement/development, new techniques, media, etc.

Please get your **input to one of the members** of the exploratory committee listed below **before April 12, 2016** so we can decide if there's enough interest to move forward.

JoAnne Sanford – (360) 878-8225 – san3jo@comcast.net

Linda Selsor – (360) 491-0377 – lselsor@msn.com

Cynthia Walker – (360)753-6075 - clwalker@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER NOTE

Please send your articles, photos, announcements & ideas to:

Linda Selsor at
lselsor@msn.com

Due Date: April 25, 2016 (sooner if all possible)



Visit **Olyphant Art Store** website for upcoming events:
<http://www.theolyphant.com/events/>

Have an idea for an **ART OUTING?**

Contact: Jean Van Doren
 (360) 455-4099
Vandoren324@comcast.net

The Artist Trust

The Artist Trust provides Washington State artists of all creative disciplines the necessary support to launch and sustain successful careers, through financial grants, career training and professional resources.

Find out more at:
<http://artisttrust.org/>

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Support the Olympia Art League with your 2016 membership if you have not already paid. Our low membership dues enable us to continue the fabulous programing that we enjoy in general meetings as well as other activities. **Please bring your \$30 check to the next OAL meeting or mail it to: Olympia Art League, PO Box 404 Olympia WA 98507**