

# Olympia Art League Newsletter

## October 2017

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**MEETINGS**—3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

#### Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 19, 2017

#### 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**



*October speaker Tom Allen shares...*

## THOUGHTS ON WATERCOLOR — LOVE OF PLEIN AIRE PAINTING

OAL's own Tom Allen will demonstrate a watercolor abstract. He warns us that a subject may or may not develop. Various subjects, creativity and imagination will be explored using examples of paintings. Bring your art materials if you want to follow along.

Tom's love of plein aire painting is infectious. "Painting outside on location is a genuine pleasure for me. I anxiously haul my folding stool, plastic fish box of paints and brushes, d' Arches block, collapsible easel and water bucket over hill and dale, down cliffs, through fences and across rocks to confront a subject. It's there in all its glory among the sights, sounds and smells in the sun and fresh air.

Here paintings come alive, retaining freshness and do not turn into Polaroid renditions that all too often seem to emerge from my studio. Neatness really doesn't count- it stifles! Too much is going on out in nature to be neat. You can't paint all you see and it's nicer if a few things are moved to new locations. A camera can't do that. In fact, photographs of locations where I have painted seldom look interesting. Even painting from interesting photographs usually is a completely forgettable experience." He invites us to try an unforgettable experience--plein aire painting.



Tom's vibrant and brilliant watercolor paintings reflect his love of nature. Since third grade he has presented scores of one man shows and received numerous awards. As a professor at Oregon State University, he taught in the College of Science and conducted research in the College of Agriculture. He also taught drawing, watercolor and acrylic painting at Linn-Benton Community College for 30 years.

He is a charter member and past president of the Watercolor Society of Oregon and the Corvallis Art Guild. Plein Aire groups he belongs to include the Olympia Art League group, Santa Rita Art League (Arizona), and Vista and Vineyards (Corvallis, OR).

OLYMPIA  
*art* LEAGUE  
Since 1945



## Toss That Dud

Anita Lehmann, our wonderful September speaker gave us all a chuckle as she shared a mental picture of our families, arguing over our paintings after we had passed on.....“No, it’s your turn! I took the last one!”

Moving into our “golden years” means the availability of time for creating “stuff.” It also means it is time to get rid of “stuff.” For any artist, a few million miles on the road to mastery is going to produce a dud (or two). Tear-stained flops are necessary. They’re the gift you give yourself when you’re willing to fly. Like me, you may have a large stash of paintings crammed in an art cupboard. Most of those painting are duds. Paintings don’t just go bad like fruit left in a cupboard..... they were already rotten when they were put in. It’s time to toss out old paintings to preserve future family relations.

### So, here’s how to purge:

As you’re going through your work, put it beside the work of masters you admire. Or use your own best work as a guide. Find work in your own portfolio that really pleases you and compare it to the suspect work. If you’re still unsure, use the “three piles” technique — “in,” “out” and “maybe.” A second pass through the maybes will often lean towards an “out.” You will probably want to keep a very few as a remembrance of where you started. And one thing you should do is photograph the rejects before they are recycled or destroyed. I do this for many reasons. One of which is to see where I was then, what I once considered doing and how to redirect my approach should I revisit the theme again.

Paul Cezanne: “When a picture isn’t realized you pitch it in the fire and start another.”

Robert Genn: “Sit beside a cheery fireplace on a cool October night and feed the flames. Scotch helps. Those flames are hungry for your poorer efforts and, while the loss of them may be at first painful to you, the lick and wither of their demise will be your cathartic event.”

Roxana



## ANITA LEHMANN WOWED AND ENTERTAINED AT SEASON KICK OFF

In describing Anita Lehmann’s presentation OAL President Roxana Caples said, “I could easily fill this entire newsletter with art tips from Anita Lehmann our wonderful September speaker. It was a great 2017/2018 season opener.”

Anita has a passion for birds and her loosely rendered art belies her architectural origins.

Some of her memorable suggestions include:



- Think of the subject as shapes not an object with a name;
- **Birds** are cool;
- Say it in as few lines as you can;
- **Birds** are story tellers;
- You will paint 15 paintings before you create a keeper;
- **Birds** drawn without looking are especially cool;
- Artists are like musicians who need interval changes to make it interesting;
- Oh look...another **bird**;
- Plein aire painting is a gathering of evidence;
- If your family doesn’t “get” your art, you’re probably on the right track;
- The 80/20 rule for success; and, (Roxana’s favorite)..
- Get three going at the same time.

There were lots more nuggets of art wisdom and there have been requests for more time with Anita, so we are working on a one day Saturday workshop here in Olympia. Let us know if you would like to be included. You can learn more about Anita’s amazing career and art at her web site—[www.hldraws.com](http://www.hldraws.com).

## Opportunities to paint, play & learn together...



### OAL EVENING PAINT-INS

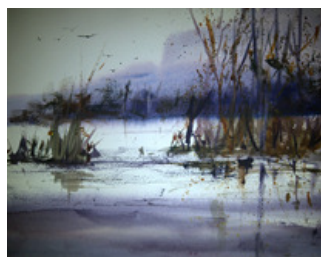
Meet Thursday evenings  
6:30—8:30 PM  
Diana Fairbanks Studio  
1230 E 8th Ave. Olympia

For more information contact Karen Bush at 360-455-8176 or via email [kbush35@comcast.net](mailto:kbush35@comcast.net)



**THINK TANK TUESDAY** meets the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is on **Tuesday, October 10th** at 2:00 PM at Haggens on Olympia's west side off the intersection of Black Lake and Cooper Point. 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.



### Watercolor Critique Group

*"Join this helpful, supportive and often inspiring group. Bring a work for gentle, constructive feed back."*

**Time:** The second Friday of each month. This month's meeting is October 13th from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

**New Location:** – Lacey Fire Station #33, 6500 Mullen Road SE (Entrance is side door to right of front door.)

**Contact:** Call or e-mail Jo Anne Sanford, 360-878-8225  
[san3jo@comcast.net](mailto:san3jo@comcast.net)

### Morning Paint-Ins

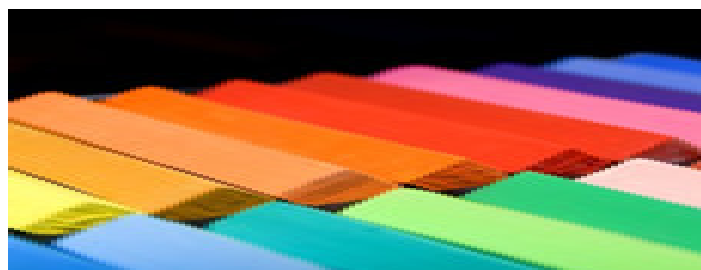
**Time:** Thursdays 9 AM – Noon

**Location:** Thunderbird Village Community Club House, 716 Dennis St SE in Tumwater



*Join other artists at work.*

**For more information:** call or e-mail Karen Crate  
[wkcrate@comcast.net](mailto:wkcrate@comcast.net) (360) 943-1827



### Pastel Critique Group

**Time:** Meets first Tuesday of the month. This month's meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 3rd from 12—2 PM

**Location:** Lacey Timberland Regional Library at 500 College St. SE off Abby Way.

**Contact:** Debra Hanson & Anna Hess are co-facilitating. Contact Debra at 360-259-5713 or via e-mail at [debh.dh76@gmail.com](mailto:debh.dh76@gmail.com)



### Abstract Critique Group

**Time:** The third Wednesday of each month. This month's meeting is on October 18th from 1 PM to 3:30 PM

**Location:** Lacey Timberland Regional Library at 500 College St. SE off Abby Way.

*We do a gentle critique of each other's work and share information about classes, books, artists or teachers that have inspired us. All experience levels and mediums welcome.*

**Contact:** To RSVP, for directions, information contact Lindsey Ford at [lindsey4d@comcast.net](mailto:lindsey4d@comcast.net) or (360) 789-7860.

*"The object of art is not to reproduce reality, but to create a reality of the same intensity."*

**Alberto Giacometti**

*Check out the shows and support...*

## OAL SPONSORED ART VENUES



**Bonsai Wok Teriyaki** offers the entire restaurant for display of OAL member art. The restaurant is located in Tumwater at 408 Cleveland Ave. SE.

Bring your new work Saturday, October 7th at 10 AM when we'll change the art. **Contact Anne-Marie Brown** if you want to participate: (360) 867-3270 or via e-mail at [annie-brownie123@yahoo.com](mailto:annie-brownie123@yahoo.com)

Please thank our generous sponsor by taking your family to eat at Bonsai Wok Teriyaki.

Wednesday October 11th starting at 9:30 AM the art will be changed at **Cooper Point Public House** located at 3002 Harrison Ave. on Olympia's West side.



Scenes from Olympia, Tumwater and Lacey will be the theme for this hanging—for example, the Capitol, Farmers' Market, marina...

There is room for about 11 paintings. Contact Rick Drescher at Phone 360-786-1958 or via E-mail: [rlickdartist@gmail.com](mailto:rlickdartist@gmail.com)



The Women's Health Center at **TRA Medical Imaging of Olympia** on Lilly Road offers space for display of OAL member art. This lovely venue works well for large pieces and sculpture. New art will go up Monday, Oct. 2nd at 2:00 PM.

To see about including your art contact Jan Hansen at 360-352-2751 or at [justjansue@gmail.com](mailto:justjansue@gmail.com). TRA is located at 500 Lilly Road NE Suite 160 (opposite St Peter Hospital).

**Capitol Chiropractor** (located across from Ralph's Thriftway) offers its reception area for display of OAL member art. The staff and patients always look forward to the new art. If you'd like to be included in the next show contact **Lone Moody** at [llmoody@comcast.net](mailto:llmoody@comcast.net) or 360-357-5249.



## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please send your articles, photos, announcements & ideas for the **November** newsletter to:

Linda Selsor at [lselsor@msn.com](mailto:lselsor@msn.com)

**Due Date: October 25, 2017**



## ACRYLIC SUPPORT GROUP

**Time:** The regular meeting for the Acrylics Support Group is the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month, 1:00 to 3:00. The next is Friday, October 27th. Note the earlier starting time!

**Location:** Lacey Timberland Library at 500 College St. SE

**Program:** There will be a mini presentation on acrylic mediums, gels, and pastes plus friendly critiques of member paintings. Bring one to share.

Anyone wishing to attend who isn't already on our list should contact Karla Fowler at [nwnxart@comcast.net](mailto:nwnxart@comcast.net) for the latest schedule and location information. Anyone interested in acrylics is welcome!



## GETTING ACQUAINTED RETURNING!

The Getting Acquainted column started several years ago as a way to help members get to know one another. Each month we featured three to four of our members and shared tidbits about their art interests—teasers really, with just a bit of information about a member's preferred medium, subject matter, early influences, etc. We share your photo and pictures of one or two of your works. It's a great way to find kindred art spirits!

**Lindsey Ford** has graciously volunteered to do the column. If you'd like to be featured contact her at [lindsey4d@comcast.net](mailto:lindsey4d@comcast.net) or (360) 789-7860. Have your photos and bios ready, she may give you a call!

## OAL ONLINE GALLERY

To share your work online, send **Rick Drescher** three of your favorite works and an artist statement of no more than 150 words. Include your website or Facebook page in the artist statement to Rick Drescher at [rlickdartist@gmail.com](mailto:rlickdartist@gmail.com)

## Kudos and shows...



August and September have been busy months for **Karla Fowler's** maritime art. One painting was selected for the Foss Maritime Company's 2018 calendar. Two paintings

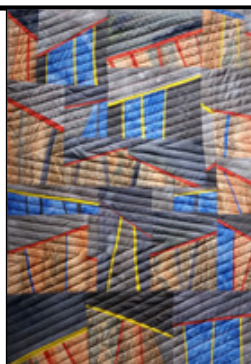
were selected for the Peninsula Art League's 2017 Open Juried Art Show in Gig Harbor – on display through October 22 at the Harbor History Museum. Several tugboat paintings helped promote the Olympia Harbor Days Festival -- five at Childhood's End Gallery, four at Harbor House event information center, and four as part of a tugboats authors/artist presentation at Browser's Book Shop.

**Alice Liou** will display her paintings during Olympia Arts Walk on October 6 and 7 at the Olympia Gear Exchange (101 Capitol Way N, Olympia).



**Deborah Henderson** received a 4<sup>th</sup> place award in the drawing category at the Washington State Fair Fine Art Show. She also received awards in two Northwest Pastel Society shows this summer—a Juror's Award in the NPS Member's show in Portland and the President's Award (2<sup>nd</sup> Place) in the NPS Signature Show in Anacortes.

Two of **April Works'** fiber art pieces were in exhibits--"City Nightlife" (2D Textile Art) was in the 2017 Southwest Western Juried Exhibition and "Scabland" (3D Textile Art) is still up in the "State of the WA(ter) Exhibit at Pacific Northwest Fiber Arts Museum. She received two First Places and one Second Place for Fiber Art at the Thurston County Fair.



### EARLY BIRD SPECIAL ON MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual membership renewal is due by January 31, 2018. Annual dues are \$30. Renew before the end of the year and it's only \$25. Please bring your check to the next OAL meeting or mail it to: Olympia Art League, PO Box 404, Olympia, WA 98507.

## Workshops and classes...



### CAL'S FIRST OIL PAINTING CLASS THIS SEASON OFFERED OCTOBER 14TH

*Newcomers, beginners and advanced students welcome!*

**Time:** Saturday, October 14th 9 – 3:30 PM (half hour break for lunch)

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

**Focus:** The subject matter is the student's choice. We'll cover color mixing, composition, and brushwork.

**Location:** Class is held at the Diane Fairbank's Studio, 1230 8th Ave., S.E. Olympia.

**Contact:** Call Cal Capener at 360-491-0704 to register or contact him by email at: [ccnac@msn.com](mailto:ccnac@msn.com)



### OLYMPIA WATER-COLOR CLASSES WITH ANN BRECKON

Ann has two fun projects planned this month.

October 9th 12—3

**PM:** Painting different fabric textures such as satin, burlap, plaids, sweaters, sheers etc. Great knowledge for anyone painting portraits or still life.

October 23rd 12—3 PM: Crystal...it's easier than you think. Every little facet is just an abstract design.

**Location:** First Christian Church 701 Franklin St. SE, Olympia WA 98501

**Cost:** \$35 per session

Please contact Ann at [annbreckon@gmail.com](mailto:annbreckon@gmail.com) to be included on Ann's Olympia e-mail list.

*"To be an artist is to believe in life"*  
Henry Moore



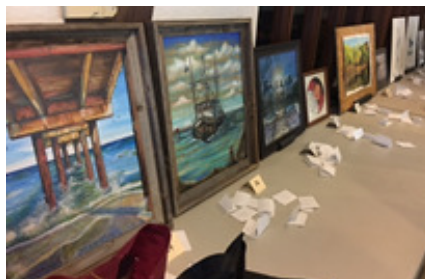
## Board/Committee Members

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 Meeting Set Up: Mike Scheurich, John Luxton  
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 Website: Christi McGinley (non-member)  
 Members Only Art Show: Heather Simons, Lindsey Ford, Dotti Wilke  
 Community Outreach: Teresa Crowley, Jean Van Doren  
 OAL Juried Show: Roxana Caples, Trisha Gooch  
 Art Tours: Jean Van Doren  
 Fair Art Show: Diana Fairbanks  
 Local OAL Art Show Venues:  
*Bonsai*: Anne-Marie Brown  
*Capitol Chiropractic*: Lone Moody  
*Cooper Point Public House*: Rick Drescher  
*TRA Medical Imaging*: Jan Hansen  
 Paint Out: Jane King, Jo Anne Sanford  
 Paint In Day: Karen Crate  
 Paint In Night: Karen Bush  
 Recruiter: Roxana Caples

## Scenes from September's meeting...



La Donna Kruger providing feedback during the art display and critique



Member art on display for feedback



Oct. presenter Tom Allen welcomed feedback on his pumpkin patch.



Karen Crate inviting members to the weekly morning paint ins.



## Nominating Committee Named

OAL will be electing officers at the November meeting. At the September meeting Roxana Caples announced that a Nominating Committee had been formed consisting of Karen Bush, John Luxton and Jo Anne Sanford. They are seeking nominees for the offices of President, Vice president, and Secretary.

If you'd like to be considered for one of the offices or have a great candidate in mind, please contact one of the members of the committee. They can also provide more information about the duties of the offices. You can reach them at the following contacts:

Karen Bush (360) 455-8176 [kbush35@comcast.net](mailto:kbush35@comcast.net)  
 John Luxton (360) 878-9921 [johnluxtonart@gmail.com](mailto:johnluxtonart@gmail.com)  
 JoAnne Sanford (360) 593-6976 [san3jo@comcast.net](mailto:san3jo@comcast.net)

## Olympia Art League Newsletter

"An official publication of the Olympia Art League"

Editor: Linda Selsor

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