

# Olympia Art League Newsletter

## November 2019

*November presenter...*

### Wire Sculptor Elizabeth Berrien



Elizabeth Berrien is our guest speaker for the November meeting, our last meeting of the year. In anticipation of her presentation, Elizabeth shared her art journey. "In high school, I dreamed of the beauty of animals but couldn't translate their energy lines on paper. My efforts to draw were clumsy; I wasn't aware that I was left-handed. My teacher, Ken Curran, kept throwing new materials at me 'til something clicked. Wire clicked big. It was an ink line I could form directly with my hands. I taught myself to draw in three dimensions.

"I followed the wire, and became a pioneer in the field of contemporary wire sculpture. I explored and invented. Thirty-seven years later, I'm still at it. I've been immersed in the exploration of wire sculpture for two-thirds of my life. When I look back across the curve of time, I see a line of progress and discovery, trial and error. When I see a sculpture I made, I remember my feelings about the creature in question. I remember what was going on emotionally in my life while I twisted those wires.

"The animals themselves have always been the major element of my life; I've always had an affinity for nature. I'll never stop studying the way animals move, their elusive spark of spirit and nature. The animals are telling me it's time to blur some boundaries and travel new paths. There is something in the nature of Guardianship involved. As I weave my sculptures, I infuse them with the intent to bring you peace, strength, health and well-being.

"Fifteen years into the process, I achieved sufficient mastery to weave with a sense of absolute freedom and spontaneity. I started to work smoothly and rhythmically. If I focused on just following the lines that defined an animal, the hidden inner structure would take care of itself.

"The sculptures are a source of ongoing adventure. Large commissions take me all over the world. There's nothing half as lively as traveling with a life sized bear, giraffe or dolphin checked as oversized baggage..."

See more of Elizabeth's work at her website: [wirelady.com](http://wirelady.com). You can reach her at: [wireladyE@yahoo.com](mailto:wireladyE@yahoo.com)



#### OAL MONTHLY MEETING

**Next Meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, November 21st

**Location:** ELKS LODGE, 1818 4<sup>TH</sup> Ave. E, Olympia

6:30—Socializing and sharing art

7:00—Business Meeting to elect officers and announcements

7:30—Speaker Demonstration

Check out our website: <https://olympiartleague.com/>



## Changes Coming

How time flies! I have so enjoyed being your President. Now it's time for a new regime. In November we'll be electing our new board officers and we need you to be present so we have a quorum. As extra incentive to come to the November meeting, Roxie has ground-breaking wire artist Elizabeth Berrien lined up as presenter. It promises to be a real treat. Our new officers will bring new ideas and changes. That's how it works. I can't wait to see what's new in the coming year.

As for new ideas, your response to our "sign up 10 minutes" at the October meeting was super; I hope we implement that idea in the future. And, the Watercolor Support Group shared their monthly challenge—painting a crow. It was great to see the variety and the different approaches artists took to the same subject. I hope this idea takes root and some of our other groups share their challenges at our monthly meetings. If you have any ideas that might help us show off our member's talent, be more efficient, or just have more fun, just let me know. Or, you could join us at Think Tank Tuesday and share your great idea.

As far as this last month of my tenure as President, you might say that we are getting new leadership in the "Nic" of time. I fell recently and thought I just banged up my thumb. It turns out I will have surgery the 23rd. I am barely able to type, but it's a heck of a lot better than writing with a pen. Wow, don't hurt your dominate hand, not only is it a pain, but my hair is a mess. Six weeks and I'll be getting better--almost in time for Christmas. I'm grateful there is a holiday break.

Thank you for honoring me with the opportunity to serve as your President. I will not disappear, oh no. I plan to help in any way I can and I know you will also.

My best to all you Fabulous Artists,  
Nicki Weber OAL President

## Cal Capener...

### The Evolution of an Artist

Cal Capener, our speaker at the October meeting, shared his path from a childhood love of drawing to his current successful oil paintings. His motivation for continual growth has been his deep admiration for the past and present "greats" of oil painters.



Always happy to learn, Cal has studied with several well-known artists. He also

has tremendous observational skills and carefully studies famous paintings. He takes note of brush strokes, color combinations, and composition in famous pieces, and then applies those principals to benefit his own paintings.



Cal's art path has moved through mastery of drawing, photography, and painting in abstract, realistic, and impressionist styles. His art has sold and won awards in all these styles.

One of Cal's big take-away from his studies has been to create slowly and to take time thinking through all the necessary steps to a successful art piece. He shared the "Rule of 10" which states that the activities we choose at the age of 10 are the things we will enjoy for our lifetime. He said if we haven't continued doing what we loved at age 10, we are "missing the boat".

Cal's paintings are often shown at Childhood End Gallery. He also offers classes in oil painting for all levels of painters. His email is [ccnac@msn.com](mailto:ccnac@msn.com) and phone 360-491-0704.

Contributed by Ruth Fuller

*The artist is not a different kind of person,  
but every person is a different kind of artist.*

**Eric Gil**

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



### OAL EVENING PAINT-INS

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

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

*"All mediums and people are welcome."*  
\$5 fee covers utility costs during paint-ins

### 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



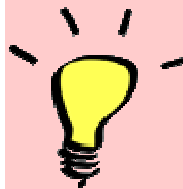
### Abstract Support Group

*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.*

Time: The **third Monday** of each month. The next meetings are November 18th and December 16th from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

Location: Lacey City Hall, 420 College St. (next door to the library). To find the room, enter through the middle door; the Community Room will be on your immediate left.

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



**THINK TANK TUESDAY** meets the second Tuesday of each month, **Tuesday, November 12th** at 2:00 PM at Haggens on Olympia's west side off the intersection of Black Lake and Cooper Point. *Join us—members are encouraged to socialize, talk art, and think up terrific ideas to make OAL a more amazing art club.*



### Watercolor Support Group

*Join this helpful, supportive and often inspiring group. Bring a work for gentle, constructive feedback and try your hand at the month's challenge.*

Time: The second Friday of each month. The next meetings are November 8th and December 13th from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

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

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



### Drawing Support Group

Focus: Bring your drawings for a friendly critique. You can leave them in sketchbooks if you like.

Date and Time: Meets the first Tuesday of each month from 3—4:30 PM.

The next meetings are November 5th and December 3rd

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

Contact: Rick Drescher at phone (360) 786-1958 or via E-mail:  
[rickdartist@gmail.com](mailto:rickdartist@gmail.com)

### JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE *Friday, December 20th*

Please send your articles, photos, announcements & ideas for the **January** newsletter to Linda Selsor at:  
[lselsor@msn.com](mailto:lselsor@msn.com). **Questions?** Call (360) 491-0377.



## South Sound Urban Sketchers



**Date & Time:** 2nd Saturday of every month  
10:30 AM —12:30 PM. Join us for lunch afterwards.

### Coming Locations:

**November 9 10:30 AM.** Great Wolf Lodge, 20500 Old HWY 99 SW. Meet at the main entrance. Throw down at 12:30 with lunch at Burger Claim.

**December 14th:** Capital Mall in NW Olympia. Meet at the main door by the movie theater.

**January 11th:** Bark and Garden center 4004 Harrison NW Olympia

**Contact:** Cheryl Wilson at [cwilson3250@gmail.com](mailto:cwilson3250@gmail.com)

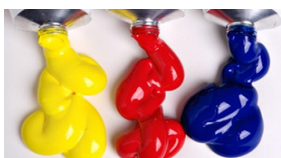


## MIXED MEDIA CHALLENGE & SUPPORT GROUP

**Date & Time:** The third Friday of each month from 1 – 2:30 PM. Next meetings November 15th & December 20th. This month's challenge—trees.

**Location:** 913 Lilly Road, Olympia in the complex Cabana

**Contact:** Sherié Balko-Nation at (360) 628-0968 or by email: [Gipseefire@hotmail.com](mailto:Gipseefire@hotmail.com)



## ACRYLIC SUPPORT GROUP

**Date & Time:** The fourth Friday of the month, November 22nd and December 27th, 1:00 —3:00 PM

**Location:** Lacey City Hall, 420 College St. (next door to the library). To find the room, enter through the middle door; the Community Room will be on your immediate left.

**Program:** Includes painting critiques, a monthly painting challenge, plus valuable information sharing about tips, techniques, and materials. Anyone interested in acrylics is welcome!

**Contact:** Karla Fowler at [nwnxart@comcast.net](mailto:nwnxart@comcast.net)



**Artists' Brunch Club...** Enjoy brunch with your fellow artists at Cooper Point Public House, 3002 Harrison Ave. on the Westside, at **11:00 AM** on the fourth Monday each month—next one is **November 25th**. This is a totally social Brunch Club get together. Contact: Rick Drescher at 360-786-1958, e-mail: [ricketartist@gmail.com](mailto:ricketartist@gmail.com)



## GETTING ACQUAINTED *Introducing...*

### RUTH BRAVETTI

Probably most OAL members consider Ruth to be an abstract artist; however, she has also been known as a realist and impressionist. Printmaking, acrylic, watercolor, photography, and digital media are the main mediums Ruth currently enjoys.



"From middle school through college, people and landscapes were my subjects of interest. In my last few years of college, I began to free myself from realism. I started to distort, simplify, and embellish the objects I painted. Most of my artwork now is influenced by personal experiences, feelings, and emotions. The artwork becomes unrecognizable as to the source of the work. Pattern and texture are fascinating to me and exist everywhere. Most of my work shows strong texture. This interest may be due to my strong printmaking background."



Ruth's India ink painting titled "Organicity" shown here has been juried into the National Interstate: Where I-90 Meets I-82 Exhibition at Central Washington University in Ellensburg. The display runs from November 7<sup>th</sup> through December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery. This painting was also juried into the SPSCC Annual Northwest Art Show in 2018.

Ruth has been active in the art community in Olympia. She was a member of The Artists' Gallery for several years both downtown and at the mall. She has work consistently on display at Hanson Motors and the Tumwater State Farm office across from Costco. She's been an OAL member for about 10 years. For a few years she put together the OAL Newsletter and did most of the layout designs for the annual juried art show. As a member of the Abstract Support Group, she's always ready to share helpful tips and suggestions, and inspires members with her creative use of media.

*If you'd like to be featured in Getting Acquainted contact Lindsey Ford at [lindsey4d@comcast.net](mailto:lindsey4d@comcast.net) or (360) 789-7860*

## Kudos and shows...



Ruth Bravetti's acrylic painting "Me Too" was juried into the Radical Revolution Art Show by Siren Nation and runs from November 7th through November 22nd. The reception is on the 7th from 5—8 PM. The theme, "Radical Revolution", is meant to showcase the issues we face in light of the current social and political climates. The show was open only to female identifying artists and/or artists groups working in 2-D media. It

will be displayed at the Portland City Hall located at 1221 SW 4th.

Carolyn Burt won a total of seven awards at the Southwest Washington Fair in Centralia in August. The winners included first place awards in the black and white drawing, colored drawing and older art work categories as well as second place prizes and the Peoples Choice award for the show—"Treasured Memories" shown here.



## Workshops and classes...



**CAL CAPENER OIL PAINTING CLASSES**  
*Newcomers, beginners and advanced students welcome!*

**Time:** Saturday, November 16th 9 AM – 3:30 PM (half hour break for lunch)

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

**Focus:** The focus of the class will include color mixing, brush and knife work, and composition. Cal will do a landscape demonstration.

**Location:** Class is held at the Diana Fairbank's Studio, 1230 8th Ave., SE, Olympia.

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

## Workshop with OAL's Spring 2020

### Arts Walk Juror Dale Laitinen

Dale Laitinen, a well-known California artist and signature member of the National Watercolor Society, conducts workshops all over the country. He is known particularly for his wet into wet watercolor painting.



**Dates:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday April 20th–22nd, 10:00 AM to 5 PM

**Location:** First Christian Church, Olympia.

**Cost:** \$300, deposit of \$150 is non-refundable. The deposit is your reservation for the class.

**Contact:** Nicki Weber—[ednikweber@aol.com](mailto:ednikweber@aol.com)  
OAL members will get the first chance at registration. Cost for non-members will be \$350.

*"Certain color harmonies produce sensations that even music cannot achieve."*

Unknown

## Gull Harbor Art & Craft Show

**Saturday November 2**

10 am to 4 pm

**Sunday November 3**

10 am to 4 pm

North Olympia Fire Hall  
5046 Boston Harbor Road

### LOCAL FINE ART & CRAFT

Unique locally handcrafted fine art and craft including watercolors, oil pastels, ceramic art, photography, jewelry, fiber arts, wood and much more

\*10% of artists proceeds donated to **SafePlace**

\*Benefit Cupcake Crave Contest with gift certificate prizes and baked goods for sale. 100% of sales go to **SafePlace**

Contact: [info@wildartwatercolors.com](mailto:info@wildartwatercolors.com)



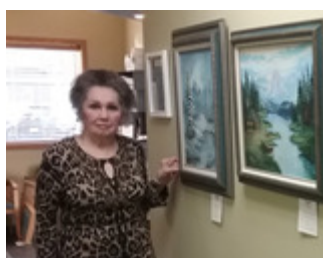


## Artists on display at... OAL Sponsored Art Venues



**Susan Bossee, Flemming Oppen-  
hagen Behren and Victoria MacDonald**  
have their icon paintings on display in  
the Spiritual Direction Office, Providence  
St. Peter's Hospital. The art went up at  
the end October. The featured photo is  
from VictoriaMacDonaldStudio.com.

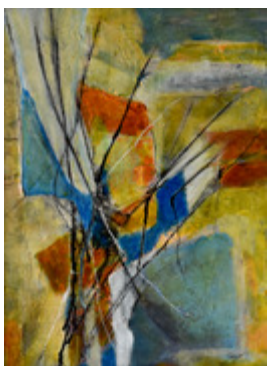
**Teresa Marie Staal-Cowley's** paintings  
and her husband **Ron Cowley's** photo-  
graphs are on display in the second floor  
cafeteria also at Providence St. Peter's  
Hospital.



**Mary Ann Mathis** is the fea-  
tured artist at Sutton Chiroprac-  
tic and Massage for Novem-  
ber. Dr. Rodriguez and his  
staff feature one artist monthly.

Rotations are the fourth Tues-  
day of the month, between 1 and 2 PM. The next rotations  
are November 26th and December 24th. Their address is  
1518 Bishop Road SW, Tumwater. Contact OAL member  
Teresa Marie Staal-Cowley at:  
[teresamarie4art@gmail.com](mailto:teresamarie4art@gmail.com), 360-866-1512 home or 360-  
480-9955 cell.

OAL members **Teresa  
Marie Staal-Cowley,  
Rick Drescher** and  
Dave, student artist from  
Avanti High school, at-  
tended the reception fea-  
turing Rick and Dave's  
work at the Thurston County Family and Juvenile Court



Members of OAL's **Acrylic Support  
Group** frequently meet at the Lacey  
Timberland Library and were invited  
to display their art in the library's  
foyer. The art will be on display  
November 1st through the Novem-  
ber 22nd. Linda Selsor's piece is  
featured at left. The library is lo-  
cated at 500 College St. SE, Lacey,  
off Abby Way.

## Guest column...

### Gallery Browsing

by Kathleen Guest



I picked a "sunny possible" day to ex-  
plore my new gallery discovery—Gallery  
505 in Toledo. What a beautiful gold  
and green drive. Owned by Mike and  
Di Morgan, Gallery 505 is a gem located  
in downtown Toledo at 205 Cowlitz St.

There is great variety of art in this gallery, from beautiful  
wood pieces to photography.

It is a co-op and I met one of their delightful and talented  
artists, Marilynn Dove, whose current work is in acrylic with  
palette knife. We had a great visit about art (of course)  
and how it has always been a part of our lives. Laughter  
ruled—what a grand time.

My visit just confirmed that talented artists are everywhere.  
Thank you Marilynn; I loved our art visit and the art of Gal-  
lery 505—it's well worth a visit. It is just a just a few scenic  
miles off I-5 South. They are open Wednesday - Saturday,  
1 to 5 PM.

I'm enjoying heading out on my road trips to explore galler-  
ies that are an easy drive from Olympia. After the visit, I  
enjoyed exploring Toledo; I walked the local bridge and  
communed with the Cowlitz River before heading home on  
mostly off freeway roads.



## Arts Walk Cover Artist Search

**Deadline November 1st**

Two artists selected by jury to commission works to  
be featured at the 2020 spring or fall Arts Walk  
events. Selected artists receive \$600 honorarium  
and are featured in event promotion and publica-  
tions. For artists who have officially participated in  
Arts Walk in the last two years. Go to the following  
link for details: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/  
awcover2020](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/awcover2020)





*Donate art for a cause...*

## WEST CENTRAL PARK

West Central Park, a lovely park located at Division and Harrison in Olympia, is holding a fund-raising gala on December 13, 2019 from 7-11 PM at the Women's Club of Olympia, 1002 Washington St. SE. The purpose of the gala is to raise operating funds so that West Central Park can continue its mission. They are looking for donations of art for the silent auction portion of the gala.

The West Central Park Project began in 2013 when Olympia resident Alicia Elliott envisioned a long-time vacant lot at the corner of Harrison and Division Streets — as a community park. She purchased the property. Interested community members formed a non-profit organization, which was granted 5013C status. Alicia donated the land to the West Central Park Project non-profit organization. The Park is operated by a Board of Directors and is developed and maintained by donations.

If you would like to donate art and support this effort, contact Judy Lindlauf: [jlindlauf@msn.com](mailto:jlindlauf@msn.com) or call 360-438-5428 or 360-701-9791 to arrange a pick up.

**Holiday MARKET**  
*Panorama*

Friday, November 22nd  
Saturday, November 23rd

9:00am - 3:00pm  
**Panorama Auditorium**

Shop for unique hand-crafted items and art, made exclusively by our Panorama residents! Invite your family and friends!

The Holiday Market is open to the public.

1670 Circle Loop SE  
Lacey, WA 98503



## Tumwater Timberland Library Art Display

The Tumwater library contacted OAL President Nicki Weber about a member art display there. Anne-Marie Brown followed up with the library for details.

Library Manager Nicole Thode hopes for a continuous Olympia Art League show starting as soon possible. The location of the show is behind the front desks above the office windows. It is a space 40' long and 5' high, but it is above eye level. Many of our members just don't have paintings 4 or 5 feet wide that would be appropriate for this location.

OAL wanted to pass this information on to our membership, particularly to all artists who work large. If you are interested in this venue, contact the Manager Nicole Thode directly with a resume and example portfolio. You can reach her at (360) 943-7790. The library is located at 7023 New Market St SW off Israel Rd.

**OAL ONLINE GALLERY**

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

## OAL Board & Committee or Activity Leads

**President:** Nicki Weber

**Vice President:** Rick Drescher

**Secretary:** Anne-Marie Brown

**Treasurer:** Tony Lirette

**Directors at Large:** Karla Fowler, Ruth Fuller, & Jan Hansen

**Past President:** Roxana Caples

**Newsletter:** Linda Selsor, Editor

*Getting Acquainted:* Lindsey Ford

*Proof Readers:* Roxana Caples, Cynthia Walker

**Membership Officer:** Tony Lirette

**Program Chair:** Roxana Caples

**Correspondence:** April Works

**Community Outreach:** Teresa Marie Staal-Cowley

**Recruiter:** Roxana Caples

**Art Workshops:** JoAnne Sanford

**Meetings:**

*Name Tags:* Ruth Fuller

*Phone Reminders:* Jean Van Doren

*Refreshments:* Heather Simons

*Meeting Set Up:* Mike Scheurich

*Reverse Mirror:* Jean Stewart

*Artistic Advice Basket:* Carolyn Long

**Website Gallery:** Rick Drescher

**OAL Sponsored Shows:**

*Members Only Art Show:* Heather Simons

*Arts Walk Juried Show:* Carolyn Burt, Veronica Kessler

*County Fair Art Show:* Diana Fairbanks, Kay Tolles

**Local OAL Art Show Venues:**

*Bonsai:* Anne-Marie Brown

*Capitol Chiropractic:* Lone Moody

*Cooper Point Public House:* Rick Drescher

*Providence Saint Peter Hospital and Sutton Chiropractic and Massage:*

Teresa Marie Staal-Cowley

*TRA Medical Imaging:* Jan Hansen

**Painting Get Togethers:**

*Paint-Out:* Rick Drescher

*Paint-In Day:* Karen Crate

*Paint-In Night:* Karen Bush

**Support Groups:**

*Abstract:* Lindsey Ford

*Acrylic:* Karla Fowler

*Drawing:* Rick Drescher

*Mixed Media:* Sherié Balko-Nation

*Watercolor:* JoAnne Sanford, Ruth Fuller

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS THIS MONTH



Plan on attending the November meeting so we have a quorum and can elect new officers. The nominating committee is happy to present energetic and enthusiastic candidates for our Executive Officers in 2020. Board positions are open to all OAL members. The following members have stepped forward to run for these board positions:

<input type="checkbox"/> President:	Rick Drescher
<input type="checkbox"/> Vice President:	Heather Simons
<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary:	Anne-Marie Brown
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer:	Tony Lirette

Thanks to these folks for their willingness to serve. Official voting for these offices will be conducted at the November 21st League meeting.

*Contributed by Karen Bush*



*Don't forget...*

### It's Time to Pay OAL Membership Dues

Beat the rush; renew your OAL membership before the end of the year. The cost for a year's membership in the Olympia Art League is only \$30 per year. Membership is for a calendar year, so your current membership will expire at the end of 2019. Please bring your check to the next OAL meeting or mail it to: Olympia Art League, PO Box 404, Olympia, WA 98507 ATTN: Tony Lirette



**Art Teachers:** Fieldstone Memory Care and Independent/Assisted Living in Olympia is looking for artists interested in teaching classes. If interested, contact Life Enrichment Director Viki Engstrom at: [vikie@fieldstonecommunities.com](mailto:vikie@fieldstonecommunities.com).

**Newsletter Assistant/Backup Editor:** Looking for someone comfortable with Windows Publisher that would like to learn how we put together OAL's newsletter. Editing skills and layout experience are also helpful. If interested, contact Linda Selsor at (360) 491-0377 or e-mail [lselsor@msn.com](mailto:lselsor@msn.com).

### Olympia Art League Newsletter

*"An official publication of the Olympia Art League"*

Editor: Linda Selsor

Contributors: Members of the Olympia Art League  
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