

January presenter...

Portrait Painter Lynda Lindner



From childhood, Lynda has been a portrait painter. Oil is her preferred medium, giving her the lush, bright, fluid swatches of color that dance across her canvas. She is also an award-winning pastel artist, and finds the medium perfect for dramatic light contrasts. In her presentation at this month's meeting she will talk about her art journey and do a pastel demonstration.

Lynda Lindner was born in Liverpool, England. She has a BA degree in Fine Art from Reading University (U.K.) specializing in painting and drawing. After a brief period of teaching Life Drawing at a local art college, she married and then emigrated to the United States.

She returned to painting after raising five children. Lynda and her husband moved to Gig Harbor in 2001. She is an active member in the Peninsula Art League and has participated in many exhibitions and shows in the Pacific Northwest, including OAL's ArtsWalk show.



OAL MONTHLY MEETING

Next Meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month, January 16th

Location: ELKS LODGE, 1818 4TH Ave. E, Olympia

6:30—Socializing and sharing art

7:00—Meeting and announcements

7:30—Speaker Demonstration

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



New Beginnings

This January marks my first month as President of the Olympia Art League and my first column in the newsletter. I look forward to serving as President and plan to continue moving OAL into a bright future. Thanks for your vote at the meeting.

I have been creating art in some way since I was six years old. It took a long time to decide where I wanted my art to go. After trying several mediums, I settled on watercolor as my main form of art. I was still missing something. That something was being with like-minded people. People with whom I could share my art and see what others were creating. I found the Olympia Art League had all of what I was looking for. I took every opportunity to be as involved in OAL in any way I could. This has given me a lot of pleasure. OAL members are some of the most creative people I have ever been around. I knew I had found what I had been looking for. My involvement led me to be elected as Vice President and now President. The Olympia Art League is the most inclusive group of people it has been my great pleasure to be around.

This year also marks the 75th Anniversary of the Olympia Art League. In the following months there will be little bits of the history of the OAL in the newsletters. The committee that was formed to explore our history is still ongoing and we have already found some amazing information. OAL has always been involved in promoting art and putting forth efforts to bring art to the public. This is something I would like to make sure that we continue. We should look for more ways to become even more involved with the public. This coming October 17, 2020, we will have a formal celebration of our 75 years. Stay tuned for more information in the newsletters. We have some fun things in the works.

How many of you make New Year resolutions? Do those resolutions include your art? I know most people resolve to do a lot of things like losing weight, stop smoking, eat healthier or maybe just try to be a better person. What about painting more? What about trying a different medium? How about getting more involved in the Olympia Art League? We are an all-volunteer organization and your help with all the OAL does is important to its future.

Here's to a great 2020, Rick

November's speaker...

Wire Sculptor Elizabeth Berrien

Elizabeth says it took "45 years and over 95,000 hours" to learn contemporary wire sculpture. As a child she knew she wanted to be an artist. With the help of her high school art instructor, Mr. Curin, she found her medium. He gave her some wire, with instructions to "go take this and mess with it." The habit stuck and she went on to win international awards and sell her wire sculptures around the globe.



She is largely self taught and realized "creative problem solving" brought success in art and in life. Elizabeth is inspired by nature and favors animal sculpture, but has also created human, architectural, plant and still life works that are gutsy, emotional illustrations. Each of her sculptures make viewers smile and be inspired.



Elizabeth shared two of her best tips for wanna-be artists. The first is to keep trying different things to find the medium that really excites you and is the perfect fit. The second

is "thou shall not turn down a prosperous commission." If we think we don't know how, just keep trying until we figure it out. She encourages us to "go outside our comfort zone, and that's when we'll grow."

To get started in wire sculpture we need wire and wire cutters. Any type of wire will work and the hardware store is a good place to shop. Wire is available in many metals, colors, and thicknesses. Beginners should start with shorter lengths since the only rule is "Don't poke your eye!"

Contributed by Ruth Fuller



Looking Back

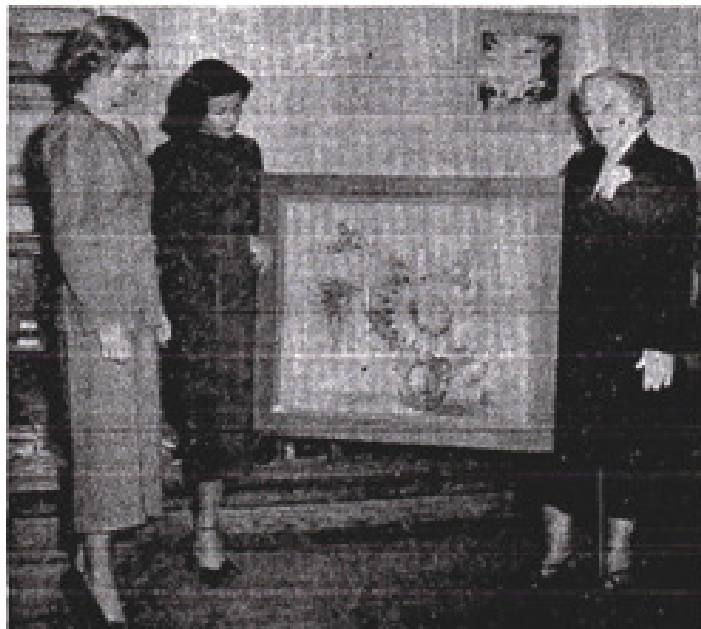
The last half of the 1940's was a time of tremendous change for our country. People were anxious to put the war behind them and reinvent their lives. Families were getting back together, the work force was restructuring itself, and new lives were reshaping. During the war for the first time in the 20th century, women and military ineligible young men had stepped up to fill war created jobs. The new working environment established a level of economic independence in people suffering from post- depression struggles. Families had learned to be more independent with older children caring for their siblings and adults taking advantage of a more liberal social life.

Naturally, after the war, a stroll in the park would never again suffice as a weekly outing. Social clubs, athletic clubs, churches, and charitable organizations saw a surge in memberships and innovative new ideas. The Olympia Art League was organized in 1945 by a group of women interested in joining with others to further their interest, promotion, and studies of painting.

The group was open to men and women, amateur or professional, with the only requirement being a love of art. The first meetings were held in conjunction with the Women's Club of Olympia where there would be a display of participants' art for gentle critiquing and social conversation along with refreshments after club business was concluded. At times the meeting agenda would include a talk or demonstration by a local artist, a discussion of an artist's work and style, or an art history lesson. This joint meeting relationship was soon outgrown, and the OAL moved its meetings to the basement of the State Capitol Museum. The two organizations continued to jointly sponsor events for some time.



"Art League Workshop Group in Session"



OAL officers admire a work by fellow member Mrs. Charles Jones on display at the State Capitol Historical Museum.

During the first few years, exhibits such as the Washington State College Collection of Well Known Artists were jointly sponsored with the Olympia Women's Club and private patrons. The exhibits were the prominent function of the art league.

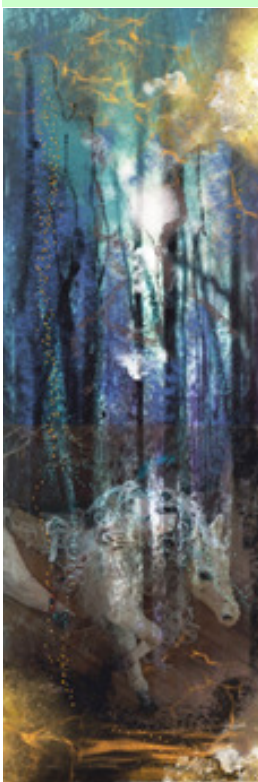
Member and juried shows would follow as the league grew in numbers and social prominence. The society pages of the "Morning Olympian" described the above mentioned event as a very successful showing on October 24th, 1946, featuring 25 well-known American painters. Hostesses for the exhibit were OAL President, Mrs. M.B. Hiberly, Vice President, Mrs. Alla Jones, and Secretary, Mrs. George Easton.

Similar articles were found in the "Morning Olympian" archives, such as the June display at the State Capitol Museum (June 15, 1947) featuring thirty two paintings by local artists with the featured artist being Miss Karl Malinowski of Aberdeen. Her oil paintings included a self-portrait painted from a mirror image and an outstanding painting of skunk cabbage. The botanical rendition being described as "a magnificent glorification of the little appreciated plant."

Most events were listed in the newspaper with detailed and elaborate refreshment lists and suggestions of "Silver Donations" being collected and donated to a charitable cause such as The Children's Relief Fund, as a part of OAL's mission to serve not only its members, but also its community.

Contributed by Candy Feris, archival photos thanks to [The Olympian](#)

OAL Sponsored Art Venues



Sutton Chiropractic and Massage

Pam McKinnie will display her art at Sutton Chiropractic and massage beginning this January through February. Dennis Gough will display his art from February through March.

Sutton Chiropractic and Massage, located in Tumwater seeks Olympia Art League artists for monthly art rotations in their office on the 4th Tuesdays of the month between 1 pm and 2 pm.

Contact Teresa if you are interested in displaying your art at:

teresamarie4art@gmail.com

Capitol Chiropractic

Capitol Chiropractic provides space in their entry and reception area for OAL member art.

Lone Højmoose Moody is the coordinator for changing the art displayed at Capitol Chiropractic. She's shown at right with one of her whimsical paintings.

If you'd like to be included in the next show contact **Lone Moody** at llmoody@comcast.net or 360-357-5249.



Creativity takes courage.

Henri Matisse



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 **January 27th**. This is a totally social Brunch Club get together. Contact: Rick Drescher at 360-786-1958, e-mail: ricketartist@gmail.com



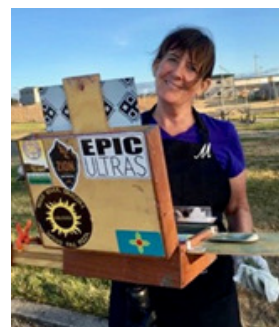
THINK TANK TUESDAY meets the second Tuesday of each month **January 14th** at 2:00 PM at Haggens on Olympia's west side off the intersection of Black Lake and Cooper Point. Join us to socialize, talk art, and think up terrific ideas to make OAL a more amazing art club.



GETTING ACQUAINTED *Introducing...*

Marz Doerflinger

Marz has been a member of OAL for four years, about the same time she picked up her art practice after a years-long hiatus. When asked about the medium she works in, Marz said, "just about everything". But she favors certain mediums for different uses. "I use oils for plein air, pastels for quick color studies, acrylics for large abstract, and watercolor for my sketchbook. I grab whatever medium suits my mood for the day."



She calls herself an abstract impressionist and focuses on landscapes and seascapes. In 2020, she plans on focusing on the figure. "I'm inspired by atmosphere. Light and color effects are interesting, but it's atmosphere that really takes my breath away. The atmosphere created by the low light of winter that we see right now is really special."



"I'm an endurance athlete and like to combine my love of running and cycling with painting. I've developed a tiny oil painting kit that fits in the pocket of my cycling jerseys so I can stop and paint if something catches my eye while I'm out on a training ride or run. Plein Air Magazine published a story about my pocket painting system last year." Marz is affiliated with Art House Design in downtown Olympia. You can see more of her work at her website--www.MarzDoerflinger.com

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

75TH CELEBRATION WILL FEATURE MEMBER SLIDESHOW

As you read in Rick's column, 2020 marks OAL's 75th anniversary. We will be celebrating this event all year long with tidbits in the newsletter and ending with a celebratory event October 17th. As part of the celebration, we will feature a slideshow of all our members and sample of their art. The slideshow will run continuously on a large screen during the event.

If you would like to be included in the slideshow, please send the following information to OALMembers@gmail.com:

1. Name,
2. Date you became a member,
3. Photo of self (jpeg),
4. Photo of favorite artwork you created (jpeg).

See the sample slide below. Deadline for submission is June 15th, 2020



South Sound Urban Sketchers

Date & Time: 2nd Saturday of every month
10:30 AM — 12:30 PM, next meet up is
January 11th.

Location: Bark and Garden center 4004 Harrison Ave. NW,
Olympia,

Throw down: At 12:30 and then lunch for those interested at
Cooper Point Public House, 3002 Harrison Ave. NW.

Contact: Cheryl Wilson at cwilson3250@gmail.com



November meeting snaps...



New officers elected at the November meeting include Heather Simons, Vice President; Rick Drescher, President; and, Anne-Marie Brown returning Secretary. Tony Lirette, not shown, was re-elected Treasurer.



Our thanks to Nicki Weber who ended her two year term as President at the November meeting.



Longtime member Rita Parten, left, listens as Cal Capener discusses a painting on display.

At right, Dotti Wilke checks out what art members share with the group at each monthly meeting.



Linda Selsor, left, talking to Jo Anne Sanford about her abstract piece on display at the meeting.

Thanks to Anne-Marie Brown for sharing her pictures from the meeting!

Workshops and classes...

MIXED MEDIA AND CALLIGRAPHY WITH TERESA MARIE STAAL-COWLEY



Time: Saturdays, from 10 am to Noon

Location: Hobby Lobby, Olympia/
Lacey at the corner of Sleater
Kinney and Martin Way

Focus: Each week we create a take home project with mixed media and calligraphy. We will create on canvas, paper, wood and fabric in multiple mediums and focus on projects of interest each week. Check out Teresa's calligraphy and art at

www.teresamarieartanddesign.com.

Cost: \$40.00, all supplies included. Returning students with their own supplies, \$20.00 each session.

Contact: teresamarieartanddesign.com or 360-480-9955 cell.

WORKSHOP WITH OAL's SPRING 2020

ARTSWALK 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. Cost for non-members will be \$350. The deposit is your reservation for the class.

Contact: Nicki Weber—ednikweber@aol.com



CAL CAPENER OIL PAINTING CLASSES

*Newcomers, beginners
and
advanced students
welcome!*

Time: Saturday, January 18th 9 AM – 3:30 PM (half hour break for lunch)

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

Focus: Will be on evergreens and various deciduous trees that usually occur in most landscape paintings. We'll use both brushes and knives. You can bring your own photos or use the many varieties Cal has on hand.

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

SOFT PASTEL CLASSES WITH GAY HOFFMAN



Gay Hoffman is offering two Soft Pastel Techniques classes this coming winter semester at South Puget Sound Community College, Lacey Campus. The topic will be Bodies in Motion, first people and then animals. The college sets the price of the classes but it was \$129 for a 6 week class and \$109 for a 5 week class in 2019. Gay hasn't heard of a price change in 2020.

Human Figure in Motion

Friday, 9:00 – 11:00 am, 5 weeks, Jan 10 – Feb 7

Animals in Motion

Friday, 9:00 – 11:00 am, 5 weeks, Feb 14 – Mar 13

To Register:

South Puget Sound Community College Lacey campus
www.spscc.edu



Did you remember to pay your OAL dues?

Membership is for a calendar year, so unless you renewed by Dec. 31st, your membership has expired. To keep your membership up to date, please bring your \$30 check to the next OAL meeting or mail it to: Olympia Art League, PO Box 404, Olympia, WA 98507 ATTN: Tony Lirette

Opportunities to paint, play & learn together...

OAL Artist Support Groups

Join one of our helpful and supportive groups. Bring a work for gentle, constructive feedback and try your hand at the month's challenge. We also share information about classes, books, artists or teachers that have inspired us. All experience levels are welcome. All mediums are welcome in the Abstract Group. Regular meeting times are listed below. Check in with the contact person to get added to the group's e-mail list. All of our groups meet at:

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

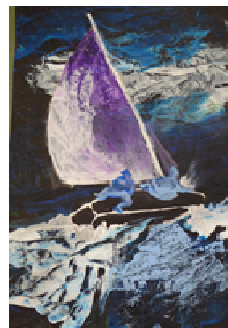


Lindsey Ford

Abstract Group

Date & Time: The *third Monday* of each month. The next meeting is January 20th from 1:30 to 3:30 PM.

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



Ruth Fuller

Acrylic Group

Date & Time: The *fourth Friday* of the month, next meeting is January 24th from 1:00 —3:00 PM

Contact: Karla Fowler at nwnxart@comcast.net

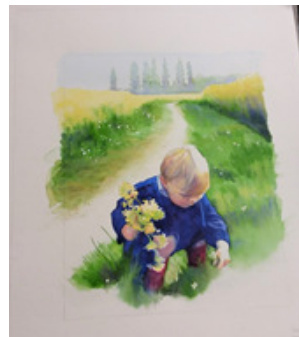


Rick Drescher

Drawing Group

Date and Time: Meets the *first Tuesday* of each month from 2—3:30 PM. The next meeting is January 7th.

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



Heather Simons

Watercolor Group

Date & Time: The *second Friday* of each month. The next meeting is January 10th from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

Contact: Call or e-mail JoAnne Sanford, 360-878-8225 san3jo@comcast.net



Morning Paint-Ins

Join other artists at work.

Time: Thursdays 9 AM – Noon

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

For more information: call or e-mail Karen Crate



OAL EVENING PAINT-INS Resume January 9th

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

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

OAL Board & Committee or Activity Leads

President: Rick Drescher

Vice President: Heather Simons

Secretary: Anne-Marie Brown

Treasurer: Tony Lirette

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

Past President: Nicki Weber

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

Watercolor: JoAnne Sanford, Ruth Fuller

Fine Art Postcard Exhibition Jan. 6 – Feb. 7

POWER TOOLS 2020



Image and credit
2019 Viewer's Choice
"Wrestling Hares",
by Joe Batt

Join us for the opening and closing receptions

Friday, Jan. 10 from 4:30 - 7 p.m., and Friday, Feb. 7, 4:30 - 7 p.m.



American Art Company

Kudos...

Lois Beck was the featured artist at the Harlequin show November 29th through December 31st.



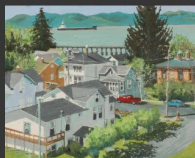
Plein Air Washington Artists presents
"The Structural Element"



December 7, 2019 - February 1, 2020

Opening Reception
December 7, 2019
2:00 - 5:00

Closing Reception
February 1, 2020
3:00 - 5:00



website: www.AmericanArtCo.com Phone: 253-272-4327
Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AmericanArtCompany

American Art Company
1126 Broadway Plaza
Tacoma, WA 98402

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Wednesday, January 22nd

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

Olympia Art League Newsletter

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