



LAKE
COUNTY
ART
LEAGUE



Official Newsletter of your Lake County Art League

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The Lake County Art League year runs from September through June. We meet on the third Monday of these months, 7-9:00 pm. Meetings in September, October, January, February, March, April and June include presentations and are held at State Bank of the Lakes in Grayslake. November and May meetings are the closing critiques for our popular fall and spring membership shows, and are held at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts theatre in Waukegan. Finally, we take a holiday break in December. Here are dates that should be on your horizon now:

Monday Oct 15 LCAL meeting
State Bank of the Lakes, 7:00

Monday Nov 19 Fall Membership Show Critique
Jack Benny Center, 7:00

2018-2019 SCHEDULE NEWS

President Oliver Merriam has been in contact with the State Bank of the Lake where we hold our general meetings, and he will soon be asked by the bank to file a request for the 2019 months. We have every reason to expect we will be back our usual schedule of third Monday meetings. September's Saturday 10-1:00 general meeting did not show a drop in our usual attendance, by the way.

HAS ANYONE SEEN

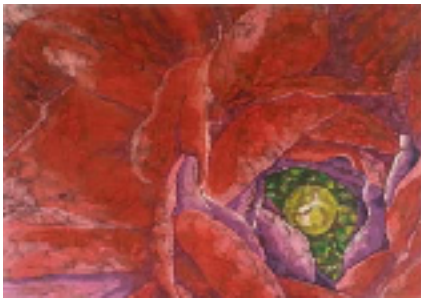
Anyone seen the art league's digital voice recorder? It was used a few years ago by Recording Secretary Jack Littlefield. Jack is back in that position and would like to be able to use that recorder again. Contact him at thelittlefields@gmail.com.

BATIK DEMO AT GENERAL MEETING

The October meeting demo will be on the artistic use of batik, the Indonesian technique of wax-resist dyeing of cloth. It will be given by member Michael Mc Conville, who entered a large stretched batik panel titled "Nestled" in the Spring Membership show.



Batik is made by drawing resist dots and lines with a tool and/or by printing the resist with a stamp. The applied wax resists dyes and allows selectively soaking of the cloth in one color, removing the wax with boiling water, and repeating for multiple colors.



Michael graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Arts. His studies included painting, drawing, lithography and graphic design. After College he sought employment in his hometown of Rockford Illinois. After a few years he went on to employment in a Chicago suburban advertising agency.

As his skills as a practical artist grew, so did his abilities as a fine artist. Attending workshops and classes he advanced in painting, colored pencils and pastels. About five years ago he rediscovered Batik. At first he was mesmerized by effects of colored wax

combined with dye. Now he enjoys that challenge of the media, the foresight required, the understanding of color theory, color blending and of course the "Happy Accident."

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PLEIN AIR

Lake County Art League Plein Air Group will hold a plein air session at the home of member Vivian Morrison on Saturday, October 20, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Vivian suggested the extended time "for late comer's or for those who come from further away to stick around."

This is a perfect time and place to capture the fall colors. We are expecting to hit the peak color at this charming former horse, sheep and mink farm has been converted to a private residence. You will find fall color in surprising new places.

Vivian has agreed to make this peak color pursuit an annual conclusion of our plein air season. Attendees will be asked to make a small donation to offset the \$185 cost of a portable toilet, needed because the expected large turnout of artists and guests will overwhelm Vivian's bathroom.

Vivian has asked that artists feel free to display and possibly sell art that day.

FALL MEMBERSHIP SHOW



Enter your art in our Fall Membership Show at the Jack Benny Center on Saturday, October 6. If necessary, members can instead drop off their work through the following week. The five-week show will conclude at our Monday, November 19 general meeting in the center's theater, where a professional artist – our own Skip Wiese – will provide a critique of each submittal. There are a handful of pretty obvious rules:

- You can submit only one piece, and please use discretion in its selection. Art that is offensive by its ethnic, religious, political or sexual expression cannot be accepted. The Benny Center staff regrets that they must include nude art in this constraint, but they are happy to store it until the critique.
- Your piece must be accompanied with a signed release form. This form also includes details identifying your submittal.
- Dues for the 2018-19 year must be paid, and a lot of our members use this opportunity to do that.
- Any member needing to remove or swap a piece that has already been hung must first alert Chris Tanner. He can be reached at 847-367-5308 or chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net.
- The piece should be wired for hanging.
- The piece must have been completed within the past three years
- The piece must not have been in a previous Spring or Fall Membership Show.

DUES DUE

Membership dues were to be paid at or before our September general meeting. They are \$20 per full time student, \$30 per individual and \$35 per family. Make checks payable to the Lake County Art League. Bring the check and form to the General Meeting or the Fall Membership Show Check-In, or mail them to Leslie Nauta, 1216 Sun Lake Ct., Lake Villa IL 60046. Questions? Contact Leslie at 847-226-5958, or nautateam@comcast.net, or you can contact Betty Perry at 847-362-1730, or bettyaperri@gmail.com.

A REMINDER FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

Many of our books have been checked out so long that have been forgotten. Members are asked to see if they might have LCAL library books that they no longer notice, and to please return them. Questions should be directed to Debbie Kalinowski at 224-221-1348 and artbydebbiek@gmail.com. Debbie is filling in for librarian Phil Schorn as he deals with a medical issue.

MEMBER NEWS EDITOR TEAM NEEDED

Member News has become so popular that it has outgrown the limited space of *Sketches* and the limited time of Chris Tanner, On-The-Wall director. By switching to a separate e-mailed document, it is now possible to include unlimited color images of art. Artist's news and insights are useful and fun, and their appeal will probably grow.

The work involves cleaning up the miscellaneous correspondence from our members once the mid-month request for news is sent to our members. This is a form of editing, but it's mostly a matter of just working up a standard that makes everything convenient to read. Please contact Chris Tanner at 847-367-5308 or chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net.

CURRENT COMMITMENTS TO HOSPITALITY

Hospitality director Becky Schwarz says the current sign-up for providing refreshments for the conversation break at our last two 2018 general meetings are:

10/15/18 at the State Bank of the
Lakes, Grayslake

- Jackie Carmichael
- Doris Kucik
- Betty Perri
- Barbara Stubing

11/19/18 at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts,
Waukegan

- Barb and Denis Rogers
- Gail Basner
- Carol Otis
- Betty Perri
- Mary Jo Wignot

IN MEMORY OF VIRGINIA MORRISSEAU 1925-2018

The following profile of Virginia Morrisseau was published in the April 2004 issue of *Sketches*. It was assembled by Sally Baker Keller as an edited summary of Virginia's response to a number of questions. This rich memory is thus presented to you in Virginia's voice. The image is from a 2008 Daily Herald article.

"My art career started at nine years old, when I was awarded a scholarship to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts Saturday Children's program. This was a fine arts education that inspired me and gave me a vision of being an artist. Art has been an important and integral part of my life ever since. After High School I came to the stark realization that I could not support myself in this avenue, and began my engineering career. This allowed me to continue studying art and painting, however sparingly.

"It was a good mix, as the engineering work was very rewarding and allowed me to move to California (Hughes Aircraft) and then to the Midwest, where I settled down in Lindenhurst. Here, I designed and set up production for one of the first thermoelectric refrigerators. "Following that, I worked for Baxter Healthcare for 13 years in the development of new products — all the time counting the days to retirement, when I could be a full-time artist. Following my time at Baxter, I formed my own consulting company (PAR INT'L) and worked as a contract engineer, providing artist services as well. This is now only an artist services, etc. company, and has served me very well."



"If I had to pick a favorite medium, it would be Encaustic. After working with most every medium, including sculpture, the fascination of this ancient method of painting has engulfed me. My inspirations have always been the Impressionists, although lately, I have been leaning toward Jasper Johns and various abstract artists. Encaustic paintings can be both. ... "Probably my most challenging experience was a request to show my work at an exhibit for blind and sight impaired people, at the Lemon Street Gallery in Kenosha, WI. I felt that I could "give something back" through my art, so I added Braille to my Encaustic paintings, using B-B pellets, and allowed the "viewers" to feel and read at the same time. Since most paintings are NOT to be touched, this was an unusual opportunity for those people. It was also an enriching experience for me, and I am now working on a series of ten paintings for the blind, with Braille incorporated in them. I am hoping to be able to offer a show to the Institute for the Blind, in the near future. ...

"As to the style of my paintings, I can't go all the way to total abstraction. I'm too interested in the characters of the subject matter. I just can't abstract it out of existence unless, of course, it is a geometric design which is a result of my engineering background.

"I have been privileged to be a member of the LCAL for many years, having served as President, Corresponding Secretary and Scholarship Chair. It is a constant source of inspiration. How lucky we are!"