



# Sketches...

## Official Newsletter of your Lake County Art League

April 2021

Since 1934 LCAL.org 501c3

### Karen Margulis to give April 19 'Expressive Pastels' virtual demo

**Our demo will start following a brief 7:00 pm business meeting, and will end by 9:00 pm.**

Anyone uncertain about their ability to connect to the Zoom meeting and demo can try as early as 6:30 and contact Jeff Harold at 847-838-9894 or [jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com](mailto:jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com) if there are issues.

Jeff interviewed Karen a couple of weeks ago and sums up his impression thus: "What does a butterfly have to do with composition? How do you make your palm trees glow? How do you start a painting? In this interview Karen Margulis discusses the answer to these questions and more. If you check out her blog tab at <http://www.karenmargulis.com/gallery/> you'll find many more pastel demonstrations, discussions, and instructional videos. You can Google her to see these and her art, and you can find her on Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram and Esty." Here's the link to Jeff's interview:

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!ArDtwvqZrMflvgYyKEQpPaTgSYtG?e=VZ35Dc>



Over the years we have seen many pastel demo's, but an articulate Karen Margulis will also lecture. She explains in Jeff's interview how to use this versatile medium expressively with a little planning and thoughtful selection of a color pallet. Yet the key seems to be building an underpainting *before* taking a serious look at your reference photo. Jeff's interview includes a very interesting three minutes (timeline minutes 20-23) on how one makes an underpainting using soft pastels.

Left: 'Seaside Sunset' 12x9

Right and detail below:  
'Winter Wildflowers' 8x10



Karen talked to Jeff about painting daily, even if she can only squeeze in 10-15 minutes, and about painting with passion. When the passion wanes she simply stops and makes a list of limited things to finish when time and passion return. Karen also talks about composition and the importance of engaging the viewer.

On her web site, in a paragraph titled "About Me," she says "I was born in Connecticut, grew up in South Florida and spent summers in the North Carolina Mountains. I currently live in Marietta Georgia, just outside of Atlanta. I graduated from the University of Florida with a BA in Education. I operated a family day care for 21 years so that I



could stay home with my own 2 children. We traveled every summer with the kids and tried to visit every National Park. Most of my paintings are inspired by the photos I took on these adventures. I am now painting and teaching pastel classes and workshops full time.” She is represented by several galleries in the Southeast as well as several online galleries, and she is a Member of Excellence in the Southeastern Pastel Society and a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America. Karen just (October 2020) did an Expressive Pastels workshop for Main Street Art Center in Lake Zurich.

## **We select CLC Studio Art and Digital Media & Design scholarship winners in April**

**The 2021 LCAL and Phoebe Boyd Scholarships will be awarded to CLC students for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual CLC Student Art Competition April 9 – May 14, 2021.**

The show is open to Studio Art and Digital Media & Design students attending CLC from Spring 2020 through Spring 2021. This is a juried show and students can submit up to two pieces of work that were part of a class assignment. Accepted work will be shown on the Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art website (<http://www.clcillinois.edu/campus-life/arts/wright-gallery>) from April 9-May 14, 2021.

This year, in addition to the virtual show, there is a possibility that some pieces may be displayed as “**popup shows**” at the Gurnee Mills Mall. ***Should this happen we will let you know.***

Selecting the LCAL and Phoebe Boyd Scholarships for this show will be LCAL members Mary Haas, Clarese Ornstein, and Mary Neely.

## **April 10 is the last day for Spring Membership Show submittals**

**Our critique artist Sandie Bacon will present each piece on your computer screen, much like a Power Point presentation, but she will be able to enlarge details to discuss technique.**

Submittals for the Spring Membership Show are being accepted through Saturday April 10. Submittals, all e-mailed to [chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net), will be put into a standardized high-resolution format for a show catalog to be used by our critique artist and our members.

The concluding virtual critique is May 17, 7-9:00 pm, in a Zoom meeting.

Our members will receive a link to the show catalog around April 15 and will be reminded to not share that outside the membership because of important artist copyright concerns. Zoom allows us to record the critique, and that recording will be available to members on our web site for one year. The critique video will have a limited image resolution that overcomes copyright concerns, so that’s something we *can* share outside the membership.

## **LCAL show in Antioch Fine Arts Foundation gallery is suddenly on hold**

We recently confirmed that many of our members would like to have a “live” show in the AFAF upstairs gallery as early as July, enough to make that seem feasible. However, AFAF just learned that their building ownership has changed hands. The new owner must now approve of the use of building spaces and the rent AFAF must pay.

So we wait.

## April 3 started 2021 plein air season

The 2021 Lake County Art League plein air effort is dedicated to the memory of Skip Wiese.



It was too soon for the color, shapes and shadows of trees in our landscapes, so we opted instead for storefronts of downtown Grayslake. Lake County village centers offer great plein air opportunities, so expect to see more of them while we paint our way to summer. Besides commercial and cultural visuals, there are surprising details to play with, like the utilitarian backs of these same stores, or overhead wires in the alleys.

For the first time since we began painting *en plein air* in 2006, we started at noon to capture unseasonably warm temperature that ranged from 60 to almost 70 degrees while we were there. There is plenty of space in downtown Grayslake for artists to scatter and explore, so we felt free to share our notice with other art groups familiar with managing the risks of gathering during the pandemic.

Left: Grayslake photo by Jeff Harold

## And ...

The Lake County Art League year runs from September through June. In the past we have met on the third Monday of these months, 7-9:00 pm. Meetings in September, October, January, February, March, April and June included presentations, usually a demonstration. November and May meetings are the closing critiques for our popular fall and spring membership shows. Finally, we take a holiday break in December. *In the midst of a pandemic our meetings are being done virtually with Zoom video and audio.* Here are dates and times that should be on your horizon:

- **April check-in for Spring Membership Show**, through Saturday April 10. Entries will be digital images.
- **April General Meeting and Demonstration**, Monday April 19, 7-9:00 pm. This will be a Zoom event
- **May General Meeting and SMS Critique**, Monday May 17, 7-9:00 pm. This will be a Zoom event.
- **June General Meeting and Demonstration**, Monday June 21, 7-9:00 pm. This will be a Zoom event and our last meeting of the 2020-2021 year.
- **September General Meeting and Demonstration**, Monday September 20, 7-9:00 pm. This will be our first meeting of the 2021-2022 year. Hopefully it will be a renewal of our hospitable in-person meetings.

### Elected Officers

President	Gail Gudgeon	gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com
Vice President	Mary Neely	mmbn@yahoo.com
Recording Sec	Jack Littlefield	thelittlefields@gmail.com
Corresponding Sec	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Elizabeth Engle	betharoo30@aol.com

### Directors

Art Festivals	(vacant until festivals again become viable)	
Historian	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com
Hospitality	Fran Issac	fmisaac@aol.com
	Sunny Parenteau	parenteausunny@gmail.com
Librarian	(vacant)	
Membership	Betty Perri	bettyaperri@gmail.com
	Leslie Nauta	nautateam@comcast.net
On-The-Wall	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
Programs	Debbie Kalinowski	artbydebbiek@gmail.com
Publicity	Tom Perkowitz	perkowitz@mac.com
Scholarships	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
Sketches	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
Tours	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
Visual Recording	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com
Workshops	(vacant)	

### Connection to the Art Community

Social Media	Phil Schorn	phil@pschornstudio.com
Website	Phil Schorn	phil@pschornstudio.com
Legacy Art	Thom Kapheim	kapart1@sbcglobal.net
Plein Air	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
Undercroft	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com