The background of the cover is a textured pastel painting. It depicts a landscape with dense green foliage on the left and right sides. A path or clearing leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. In the lower right foreground, two bright red flowers are visible. The overall style is soft and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and a rich color palette.

ISSUE #5 DECEMBER 2022

OPAL NEWS

OHIO PASTEL ARTISTS LEAGUE

2022 EDITION

WELCOME TO THE AMAZING WORLD OF PASTELS. RIGHT HERE IN OHIO.

On the cover: Diane Ruck's / Lost My Mittens, Pastel



06

HOLIDAY MEMBER MEETING

The presents were all wrapped, and placed on the hearth - waiting for members to unwrap some great art!



Member artwork wrapped and ready for gifting.



Photo: Mayme Hausman

04 HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Finishing out 2022 and looking forward to workshops, shows and exhibiting your work!



Photo: Diane Ruck

05 MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DIANE RUCK

You've seen her work and now you can get to know a little more about member, Diane Ruck.



Photo: Mayme Hausman

6 HOLIDAY HAPPINESS & GREAT EATS!

Members enjoyed some amazing food and gave - and received - some amazing artwork.



08 EVENTS AND CALENDAR AHEAD

See what's happening for 2023. Mark your calendar and get painting!

OPAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy Holidays OPAL Members,

We are nearing the end of our calendar year for OPAL. It was nice to get back to our regular in-person meetings and demonstrations. We are looking forward to 2023 where, in addition to our regular meetings and demonstrations, we will also be adding an in-person workshop with Chris Ivers (<https://www.christineiversartist.com/about>) in May! We are looking forward to this workshop. In addition, we have booked three shows for our group—a great way to get your work exhibited.

Following our December meeting the OPAL Board will be meeting to complete our 2023 calendar. This is your organization, so if you have a favorite artist or activity, please let us know—in-person or online, we are interested in offering a diverse line-up of demonstrations/activities for our membership. You can send thoughts or comments to ContactUs@ohiopastelartistsleague.org.

To make things easier for our members, we have moved dues payment to January 1 (or the first meeting in January). You can pay online or by mail. Information is available here (<https://www.ohiopastelartistsleague.org/members.html>)

Do not forget that if you are interested in contributing to the newsletter-classes you teach, exhibitions you are in, awards you have won, workshops you know about, or any other information that might benefit our members—please submit your information by the 15th of the month for the next month's newsletter, emailing **Mayme at mayme@lehaus.com**.

I would like to thank all those that have given of their time this year! In particular, the OPAL Board- Nina Hawranick, Chris Hall, Lynn Carty, Mayme Hausman, Mary Bauer, and Diane Ruck- and our committee chairs-Nina Hawranick, Bob Sako, Diane Ruck, Cathy Stoessner, and Pertain Gillespie-Buckland. Without our volunteers, we would not be who we are! If anyone plans on having a New Year's resolution to volunteer, consider a Board position or a committee chair. We would love to get you involved! You can see the options here <https://www.ohiopastelartistsleague.org/about-us.html>.

As 2022 closes, I wish you a healthy and happy holidays and New Year. Enjoy your family and friends. Paint often!

Sincerely,

Pam Hartford, OPAL President

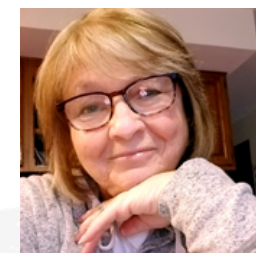
GET TO KNOW (IF YOU DON'T ALREADY KNOW) OPAL'S FOUNDER... **DIANE RUCK**



Diane Ruck, *Forsythia's Blooming*, Pastel



Diane Ruck, *In the Woods*, Pastel



OPAL MEMBER, DIANE RUCK

Where do you live?

I'm originally from Oshkosh, WI. I have been married for 48 years, have 3 children and 8 grandchildren.

Is your background in art?

I graduated from Eastern Illinois university with a bachelor's degree in Art education. In college I painted in oils but once I had children I switched to watercolor.

How did you get started on your pastel journey?

I started my pastel journey years ago in a one day workshop taught by Vivian Ripley. I loved it so much I've stayed with pastel ever since.

How did you find (found) OPAL?

In 2013 I heard of a small meeting that was to be held at the High Road gallery for those interested in possibly starting a pastel league.

Katie Fowle had gotten the ball rolling and was looking to find officers. I mentioned I had thought about starting a pastel group as well. She said great! Will you be president? I accepted the job while Katie stayed on as vice president. By 2015 we had grown to 70 members. I remained President for 5 years until Pam Hartford took over. And that's how OPAL got started.

Artwork and artist image courtesy of Diane Ruck.

HOLIDAY PARTY!



Our Annual Member Holiday Painting Swap at the beautiful Co-Hatch Worthington was a wonderful way to round out 2022. If you couldn't make it, plan to next year!

An entire spread of amazing food (see the back page for a great recipe), great art - both giving and receiving - and wonderful painting friends!

**Happy Holidays,
OPAL members!**



MEETINGS

Saturday, January 7, 2023
11am-1pm

OPAL 1st MEMBER MEETING of 2023
Kevin Buckland (<https://kevinbucklandart.com/>)
COhatch Polaris
1554 Polaris Pkwy.
Columbus, OH 43240
Livestream for members should be available.
Link will be sent the day before the meeting

Saturday, February 4, 2023
11 am - 1 pm

**OPAL MEMBER MEETING with
DEMO BY KATHY SMITHSON**
<https://www.kathrynsart.space/>
"Drawing animals"
Location: COhatch Polaris
1554 Polaris Pkwy.,
Columbus, OH 43240
Livestream for members should be available-
link will be sent the day before the meeting

Thursday, March 2, 2023
6:30 - 8:30 pm -- TBD

OPAL MEMBER MEETING
Location: TBD

Thursday, April 6, 2023
6:30 - 8:30 pm -- TBD
Location: TBD

Thursday, May 4, 2023
6:30 - 8:30 pm
OPAL MEMBER MEETING
Chris Ivers (<https://www.christineiversartist.com/>) -
"Nocturnal pastel painting"
Location: 760 E Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43205
Free for OPAL Members
Non-members welcome for nominal fee
(\$10 at the door)

JUNE/JULY - No Meetings

Thursday, August 3, 2023
6:30 - 8:30 pm -- TBD
Location: TBD

Thursday, September 7, 2023
OPAL MEMBER MEETING
6:30 - 8:30 pm -- TBD; Location: TBD

Thursday, October 5, 2023
OPAL MEMBER MEETING
6:30 - 8:30 pm; TBD Location: TBD

Thursday, November 2, 2023
OPAL MEMBER MEETING
6:30 - 8:30 pm -- TBD Location: TBD

Thursday, December 7, 2023
OPAL MEMBER MEETING
6:30 - 8:30 pm -- Christmas/Holiday Party
Location: TBD
Potluck and member painting swap

EXHIBITS 2023

March/April
Java Central and Roaster
20 S State St, Suite B, Westerville, OH
Show your art ... entries in previous OPAL shows
welcome!

2023 SPRING SHOW
May/June 2023
Theme: "Hues of Imagination"
Art should not have been shown in previous OPAL
shows (More details will follow. Prizes to be awarded.)
Gallery 22
22 E Winter St., Delaware, OH 43015

2023 FALL SHOW
September 2023
(More details will follow. Prizes to be awarded.)
Art should not have been shown in previous OPAL
shows
Westerville Arts Center or

CLASSES

May 5-6, 2023
**2023 CHRIS IVERS WORKSHOP "Don't Be Afraid
of the Dark"- A Pastel Nocturnal Workshop**
2 DAYS: 9:00-4:00 PM
Demo for OPAL members.
May 5 & 6 workshop for paid attendees.
Location: East Broad Presbyterian Church
For more info: www.christineiversartist.com or for
reistration info: pertain@bucklandgillespie.com

LAST BUT NOT LEAST....

HOLIDAY SLOW COOKER MACARONI AND CHEESE

A GREAT HOLIDAY RECIPE COPLIMENTS OF KATHY SMITHSON (AND BIG OVEN.COM)



INGREDIENTS

1 8-oz package Elbow Macaroni; cooked and drained
1 stick of butter; softened
5 cups of sharp cheddar cheese; separated shredded
1/2 cup Velveeta; cut into small cubes
1 Egg; slightly beaten
1 cup milk; (I use 2%)
1 cup Evaporated Milk; (Not Condensed)
1 tsp Salt
1/4 tsp Pepper; or to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

Grease or line your crock pot. Reserve 1 cup of shredded cheese to sprinkle on top 1/2 way through cooking time. Mix all other ingredients together in a bowl and pour into slow cooker. Mixture will be thin due to the milk but will thicken as it cooks. Cook on low 2.5-3 hours total. You may stir the macaroni after 1.5 hours before sprinkling on the extra cheese for topping.



IT'S EASY
TO GET YOUR
ARTWORK ONLINE

Take advantage of the **free member's portfolio on our website.**
Send up to five images and a short bio to be listed.
Email to:
ContactUs@ohiopastelartistsleague.org

HAVE A QUESTION? ContactUs@ohiopastelartistsleague.org

OPAL BOARD:

President – Pam Hartford
Treasurer – Mary Bauer
1st Vice President – Nina Hawranick
2nd Vice President – Chris Hall
Corresponding Secretary – Mayme Hausman
Recording Secretary – Lynn Carty

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

New Member – Nina Hawranick
Meeting Programming – Diane Ruck
Workshops – Pertain Gillespie-Buckland
Show/Exhibition – Bob Sako
Refreshment – Cathy Stoessner
Web – Pam Hartford

NEWSLETTER:

Please submit your photos, articles, exhibitions, classes and events to mayme@lehaus.com by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

HAS YOUR
ADDRESS
CHANGED?

If your address has
changed, please let
us know.
Drop us an email at
[ContactUs@ohiopastelartist-
sleague.org](mailto:ContactUs@ohiopastelartist-
sleague.org)

DON'T FORGET TO
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
FOR 2023!
SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS