



Sketches...

Official Newsletter of your
Lake County Art League

October 2021

Since 1934 LCAL.org 501c3

October 11 Presentation 7:00-9:00 pm in the Gurnee Park District Dance Hall in Viking Park

Bob Nonnemacher will demonstrate painting a broad pattern of color, texture and shape, then cutting it apart and assembling a fractured pattern that engages the viewer in a different way. His work is anchored in the beauty of geometry. In his words:

“One simple line on a canvas---not very interesting in-and-of-itself. Now add just one more line; perpendicular, diagonal, or parallel and interesting things start to happen. Geometric shapes and negative spaces side-by-side start to appear and interact as

your eyes dance in every direction. Now add color to those lines, spaces, and shapes. Those colors add a certain flavor or feeling, or remind you of places and things.

“When people view my paintings I want them to be moved by beauty in a simpler form ...”

See his work at <https://www.thebluemoongallery.com/featured-artists/bob-nonnemacher>

Hospitality returns at October 11 meeting

Becky Schwarz is taking the lead for refreshments for the above October 11 meeting, as Fran *Isaac* will be out of town. Fran says the following people have signed up to bring treats: Gail Gudgeon, Jack Littlefield, Becky Schwartz, and Val Brandner.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions she says “all snacks must be pre-packaged in individual servings. Unfortunately, nothing can be homemade. We are also asking members to bring their own beverage, although there will be bottled water available. Please plan on 25 servings, or something close (2 packs of 12, for instance), and plan on arriving at least 15 minutes before 7:00 pm.”



Fran also needs volunteers to bring snacks to the November 8 critique at Jack Benny Center in Waukegan. "I need at least six people because we usually have a large number of people at our popular critiques." Once again, we can only provide individually wrapped snacks, and beverages will be BYO. Fran will let everyone know if anything changes in the beverage department.

Acrylic paints raffle at October 11 meeting

Acrylic artists might want to bring a few bucks to the above October 11 meeting and take a chance to win a box of acrylic paints and supplies. These were given to the art league by Chuck McCann's wife after he passed away. They are not new but there's probably better than \$50 worth of pigments in the basket. Chances are \$1 each and the drawing will take place at the end of the meeting. Take a look at the basket and see if you're interested. Val Brandner will be selling the chances and all the money raised will be given to the Lake County Art League. Have a little fun and maybe be a winner.

We also have some old watercolor magazines which will be given FREE to whoever wants them. You do not have to be a Lake County Art League member to take a chance on the raffle or to take any a handful of old watercolor magazines.

LCAL in three October shows at Starline Factory

Jeff Harold explains that there are three different galleries at Starline Factory. The first of these is the regular Starline 4th Friday art show in the large, first floor gallery where there may be 40 or more individual artists that have entered this juried event. LCAL usually has at least two or more of our members represented, and more are encouraged to enter.

The October 4th Friday seems to draw the largest crowd. The last one attended by Jeff Harold had an estimated 700-800 people come through, which makes this the best opportunity for sales.

Sign up at <https://starlinefactoryartists.com/4th-fridays>. You will also find the link to the LCAL website here, That's Starline Factory advertising for the art league showing in the Upstairs gallery.

This second gallery is where we had our June show and is usually referred to as the Upstairs gallery (they're working on coming up with a formal name for it). LCAL will once again have this gallery for the artists that submitted work to show, and we will be hanging the work later in October. This time we had Tom Trausch judge the entries and he selected 28 works (two from each of the 14 artists who submitted work) to include in the show.

The third gallery – and this is the exciting part – is the closed-in gallery that shares the second-floor space with the Upstairs gallery and is called the Overland Gallery. This gallery was exclusively used by resident artists, but it has now become available. Starline is using it to highlight four or five 2D artists each month along with one or two sculptors. These artists are not specific to any one art league, will be chosen by Starline, and will have their work displayed for an entire month. If Starline will continue this starting in January of it likes the way this works out.

Four artists already scheduled this new start are Phil Schorn, Leslie Scott, Mary Norvell, and Jeff Harold. Starline is looking to several sculptors in mind that have previously shown in a Starline gallery.



LAKE COUNTY ART LEAGUE FALL MEMBERSHIP SHOW 2021

Last year we had to do our fall and spring membership shows on Zoom because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but this fall we return to a live show at the Jack Benny Center. This is not quite back to normal, though. Even if vaccinated we must wear masks, and we will thin our seating density in the Benny Center theatre by alternating full and empty seats.

The September 25 check-in has given us a 26-member show, now hung and open for viewing with catalogs handy. See the catalog below, and check your entry for errors.

At one time we were told we would be unable to visit the show without first making an appointment, but that proved to be incorrect. Currently hours at the Benny Center are now Saturdays from 9-12:00 pm and Mondays through Thursdays from 4-8:00 pm. An appointment is still needed to see the art outside those times. Call the Jack Benny Center at 847-360-4744 for that.

The Fall Membership Show will be critiqued by artist and teacher Tom Trausch, live in the Benny Center theatre on Monday November 8, 5:30 to 8:30 pm. We are starting earlier than usual to include the return of art that had been showing at the second gallery Starline gallery mentioned above.

Tom and his wife Gale have a Woodstock gallery where they often teach, and Tom conducts workshops locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. He has done critiques and workshops for LCAL, so many of us have come to know Tom as a kind and serious teacher. His own writing gives a sense of what to expect at the November critique: "Having been a career artist for almost 40 years has given me the opportunity to paint (en plein air), travel and visit great museums in the United States and in several European countries. My work is driven by the use of both light and color ... forces that add energy to the work. I believe that this light can impart a spiritual quality that resonates with the viewer. The design, shapes and the underlying abstract quality behind the painting are of great interest to me. These elements are what ultimately determine if the painting will succeed.

"My years as an artist have been about equally divided between the mediums of watercolor and oils, each with its own

- 1 Pat King watercolor titled "Great Teton National Park"**
\$500 for painting HxW 16x23 in. and frame call 847-204-0343
- 2 Val Brandner oil titled "Midwest USA"**
\$200 for painting HxW 10x13 in. and frame call 847-336-6218
- 3 Carole Otis mixed media titled "Maria"**
HxW 11x8 in.
- 4 Jerry Hosten oil titled "Horse Power"**
\$300 for painting HxW 15x19 in. and frame call 847-918-9232
- 5 Linda Rodriguez oil titled "Winter on Loch Lomond"**
\$1500 for painting HxW 36x30 in. and frame call 847-363-0931
- 6 Roger Shule acrylic titled "On the Rocks"**
\$400 for painting HxW 13x10 in. call 847-354-1292
- 7 Jeff Harold digital titled "Blue Moon"**
\$225 for painting HxW 19x13 in. and frame call 847-838-9894
- 8 Bobbi Swisher oil titled "Shells in a Basket"**
\$200 for painting HxW 16x20 in. call 847-549-9317
- 9 Gail Gudgeon pastel titled "Lake Garina"**
\$95 for painting HxW 7x5 in. and frame call 847-804-0328
- 10 Fran Isaac acrylic titled "First Light"**
\$300 for painting HxW 13x10 in. and frame call 847-249-0482
- 11 Anne-Marie Bracken digital titled "Flora Diversity"**
\$225 for painting HxW 20x16 in. and frame call 630-308-3877
- 12 Clares Ornstein photo titled "Toes"**
\$165 for painting HxW 10x8 in. and frame call 847-525-7823
- 13 Jim McDonough watercolor titled untitled**
\$150 for painting HxW 11x15 in. and frame call 847-367-0936

properties and end results. Always a challenge, making art allows one to explore more deeply and inevitably find out more about the maker, the artist.”

See his website at <http://www.trauschfinearts.com> for details of his background and examples of his work.

For practical and creative reasons we will now look a little beyond the painted or photographed images being shown, something we learned doing virtual critiques. In a live show the critique artist has always been encouraged to preview the art well before the two-hour closing critique, and then maybe do a final viewing the day of the critique. Now the critique artist will also be given a simple digital photo of each entry in case circumstances prevent that earlier preview.

This change also gives a larger understanding of what has driven the artist, and size is an important clue. Small and large art often involve different artist and viewer experiences, of course. The dimensions in our catalog do not include the frame, though the photographs given the artist will also show the frame. Unusual frames, like Roger Shule’s matchbooks, are photographed at an oblique angle.

Sometimes our members use these photos to present a background. The 2021 Spring Membership Show, done virtually, included paintings by Oliver Steven Merriam and Mary Haas that needed to be seen in a larger setting to be fully understood. Oliver and Mary provided expanded photos of their art – his on an easel and hers in a Christmas church – that were thoughtfully commented on by the critique artist, Sandy Bacon.

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.

We will finish 2021 with an unusual schedule. Our plans have been complicated by our October show at the Starline Factory in Harvard, and more generally by the uncertainties of the ongoing pandemic:

- October General Meeting: indoors **October 11, 7:00-9:00 pm** in the Gurnee Park District Dance Hall in Viking Park
- November General Meeting and closing critique: indoors **November 8, 5:30-8:30 pm** at the Waukegan Park District Jack Benny Center theatre in Bowen Park

- 14 Debbie Kalinowski oil titled "River Sunset"**
\$150 for painting HxW 11x15 in. and frame call 224-221-1348
- 15 James Brooksher watercolor titled "Fall at Lincoln Park"**
\$400 for painting HxW 13x10 in. and frame call 847-223-1317
- 16 Jennifer White Lee oil titled "A quiet Moment"**
\$350 for painting HxW 10x13 in. and frame call 847-404-3491
- 17 Leslie Nauta acrylic titled "Shapes"**
\$250 for painting HxW 15x20 in. and frame call 847-226-5958
- 18 Linda Kollacks oil titled "Miller at Work (man with straw hat)"**
\$1900 for painting HxW 20x15 in. and frame call 847-680-6334
- 19 Oliver Steven Merriam oil titled "White's Red Tree"**
\$200 for painting HxW 17x24 in. and frame call 847-201-8407
- 20 Doris Kucik pastel titled "Ducklings"**
\$150 for painting HxW 8x10 in. and frame call 847-561-6211
- 21 Tom Asma acrylic titled "Iceberg Ahead"**
\$150 for painting HxW 18x24 in. call 847-263-7512
- 22 Mary Neely photo titled "Waking the Dog II"**
\$475 for painting HxW 24x14 in. and frame call 224-623-2801
- 23 Marshall Philyaw oil titled "Fishing with Grandpa"**
\$250 for painting HxW 11x14 in. and frame call 847-546-1970
- 24 Chris Tanner watercolor titled "Prairie Oak Savanna"**
\$200 for painting HxW 11x24 in. and frame call 847-340-0275
- 25 Norine Fendrych watercolor titled "Coming Round the Bend"**
\$150 for painting HxW 11x25 in. and frame call 847-767-9899
- 26 Phil Schorn color pencil titled "Tennessee Barn"**
\$625 for painting HxW 19x20 in. and frame call 847-421-7925