

Sketches

In our first General Meeting after a pandemic interruption and a summer break, we will kick off the 2020-2021 year with an outdoor meeting and plein air demonstration in Waukegan's Bowen Park. Thanks to our long relationship with Waukegan Park District we can use this picnic shelter in a beautifully landscaped setting next to the Jack Benny Center at no cost (public picnic shelter rentals generally start at \$50). We will meet there again in October unless it gets too cold. This meeting will be Saturday, September 19, from 2:30-5:00 pm, and we have an option of shifting the meeting to the same time the following Monday if weather becomes a problem.

General Meeting and Demo Sept 19, Sat AM, Outside

We all want to see our art friends after a very long separation, and this is a pleasant, low risk way to break the isolation before we must switch to virtual meetings this winter. Come and celebrate this happy respite. Sorry, we cannot yet provide coffee and finger food, and we must wear masks and practice social distancing...but we can sure talk about art!

Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can better prepare for this meeting. Contact Debbie Kalinowski at artbydebbiek@gmail.com.

The plein air demonstration will be given by Tom Henrichsen.

As a young man Tom had two passions: when he wasn't painting or drawing caricatures, he was learning to play guitar. After studying fine art he decided to pursue his love of music and started to build a career as a musician and teacher. And yet...

While on vacation in Scottsdale, Az, Tom met a western artist named Harold Lyons and was inspired to begin painting again. When he returned to Chicago, he began studying painting with Dominic Vignola and Frankie Johnson. Tom also counts portrait artist Bill Chambers as a mentor. Tom has devoted himself full time to painting since 2005. He now displays and sells his work at fine art fairs throughout the Midwest and is a member of Oil Painters of America.

"Painting en plein air - literally painting in the open air" is the foundation for all my work. Working from life teaches an artist how to see, and so I believe plein air painting is critical to my development as an artist. Even when I use a photo reference, I try to bring the quality of my outdoor work indoors.

"I like to think that the subject matter in a painting is less important than how the contrast of light and shadow effects the composition as a whole. In the end, art is a non-verbal language. Ultimately, it is my desire to communicate my feelings about a scene through the language of painting."

See his art at <http://tomhenrichsen.com>.

Check-in for Virtual 2020 Fall Membership Show is Oct 4-10

Now is the time to once again think about your submission for the Fall Membership Show, which always starts with a check-in in very early October. We cannot crowd into the Jack Benny Theatre for a critique during a pandemic, however, so we must do this virtually. Below is a comparison of how we have always done the Fall Membership Show in the past, as opposed to how we will do it this fall. Here's what the Fall Membership Show looked like prior to 2020:

1. The critique artist is a local professional artist selected by our Presentations chairperson or team.
2. Our "release form" includes key information: title, medium and, optionally, the price if it's available for sale.
3. Our check-in team is at JBC on the first Saturday of October, and "Self Check-in" continues through the following Friday.
4. The show is on public display for about six weeks, and the critique artist previews the show at least once during that time.
5. The critique and awards are at JBC theatre on the evening of the third Monday of November, usually two 40-minute segments separated by a 20-minute coffee and conversation break.
6. The critique was last video recorded in 2007. We stopped because video recording involved a lot of work to produce a tape for the art league library.

All of that should sound familiar. We've been doing show/critiques since 1934 and gotten pretty good at it. Now here is the 2020 Fall Membership Show, the new normal:

- The critique artist is a local professional artist recruited by our Presentations chairperson or team, and will need no special equipment beyond a laptop that includes both a camera and a microphone.
- A "check-in form" will replace the release form, and will also include image size and optional comments explained below. There is no longer any potential liability to be released from.
- Participating members e-mail their form and image to the On-The-Wall chairperson Chris Tanner during the first full week of October, Sunday October 4 through Saturday October 10, but we would prefer approximately 2 MB.
- Images with key information and comments for 4-6 artists will be shared with members each Monday until the critique
- The critique artist will receive images and form data one week before the critique.
- The Zoom critique and awards, effectively a voice-over PowerPoint or slide show, will be on the evening of the third Monday of November. Day and time may be changed once we survey the membership, however.

- Zoom also allows us to record the critique. That record will be available to members on our web site for one year, beginning the day after the critique. It will also be available to the public.

- Images of work must be approximately 2 MB in any format. We will change that to JPG, crop the edges and adjust brightness. We will not adjust saturation or contrast. Here are some tips for using a smartphone:
 - Square up the piece. Make sure you don't distort it by photographing from an irregular angle.
 - Photograph in natural daylight for the best color match. Try laying the piece flat on the ground outside (driveway, sidewalk, deck) and photographing from above (you may need to stand on a chair). Cloudy days are best.
 - Nearly fill the frame of the camera with the desired image to get maximum pixel density.
 - Take multiple shots and pick the best one.
 - If you are emailing from your phone and are prompted to choose the image size, choose the largest option available (usually called "actual size" or "original size").

Writing the new Optional Comment

Understand that the comment is only a substitute for the fun casual conversation that has made for a lot of what we enjoyed in our long history of critique events. It too is casual, and will only be shared with other members via e-mail, along with your e-mail address, your art and key information about your art. Your comment will not be included in the package given to the critique artist, nor will it be posted in the LCAL web site, and it will not be part of any record of the critique. It's just conversation

Members are encouraged to respond to comments made by exhibitors.

The Rules

Recall all the rules? Most are not irrelevant now, except there can be only one entry per member, exhibitors must have paid their dues, and the art can be no more than three years old. We will immediately check to confirm dues paid by an exhibitor and any problem will be addressed with the member.

A Membership Form and a new Check-in Form are included this newsletter.

There are things about the old way that we will miss, especially the art discussions that start at check-in and seem to continue through the night of the critique. Yet there are many things to like about this new approach, and more than anything it's the simplicity. In the past it took 8-10 members to do a balanced and effective traditional critique; now it can be done by only one or two members, and the exhibitor steps are much more convenient.

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 and were 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.

In the midst of a pandemic, however, some things are being changed and are subject to member preferences. For now, though, here are dates and times that should be on your horizon:

Elected Officers

President, Gail Gudgeon, gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com

Vice Preside, 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 (vacant, under evaluation)

Hospitality, Fran Issac, fmisaac@aol.com

Sunny Parenteau, parenteousunny@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, Bobbi Swisher, bobbi_swisher@outlook.com

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

- Saturday September 19, September General Meeting and Demonstration, Bowen Park shelter, Waukegan, 2:30-5:00 pm
- Monday, September 21, General Meeting Rain Day, Bowen Park shelter, Waukegan, 2:30-5:00 pm
- October 4-10, E-mail Check-in for Fall Membership Show
- October General Meeting and Demonstration, dates and times TBA, but around the third Monday of the month.
- November General Meeting and Critique, date and time TBA, but around the third Monday of the month. This will be a Zoom meeting.
- December Holiday Break
- January General Meeting and Demonstration, dates and times TBA, but around the third Monday of the month. This will be a Zoom meeting



Please complete this form and
submit it with your payment

Membership Form

2020-2021 Year

The membership year runs from the September general meeting to the September general meeting of the following year. Annual dues are to be paid at or before the September general meeting, and are \$20 for a full-time student (12 hours minimum), \$35 for an individual and \$45 for a family. New members joining after **March 1 2021** will pay half the annual dues.

Make your check payable to "Lake County Art League" and mail it to our Membership Chair person:

Betty Perri 1720 Tall Pine Way, Libertyville IL 60048

Questions? Contact Betty at 847-975-1730, or bettyaperri@gmail.com,
or you can contact Leslie Nauta at 847-226-5958, or nautateam@comcast.net.

Payment: \$20 Student \$35 Individual \$45 Family

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail* _____

*for correspondence, newsletters and notices

Art Medium _____ Renewing Member Returning Member New Member

LCAL Newsletter **Sketches**: Send e-mail edition only (preferred) Send printed edition

As a member of the Lake County Art League we look forward to your sharing your time and talent with us as we strive to share our experiences with you. Your active involvement in the many activities of the art league will help you grow as an artist and us grow as an organization. That involvement will also give you greater personal contact with your fellow members, including directors and elected officers. Please circle interests below that suit you and your sense of how to bring fine art to the people of Lake County.

- spring/fall membership shows
- help with art workshops
- help with tours
- help with plein air sessions
- help with social media
- help with website
- help with newsletter
- help with member news
- help with display of member art
- help with legacy art preservation
- help with Zoom hosting

Other special interest - tell us _____

[PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE AT LCAL.ORG](http://LCAL.ORG)

LCAL 2020 Fall Membership Show

Virtual Critique Check-In Form

The rules:

- One entry per member.
- Exhibitors must have paid their dues.
- The art can be no more than three years old.

The form contains 9 items, but can use it as a worksheet and write the information in an e-mail:

1. Artist Name
2. E-mail address
3. Image Dimensions
4. Framed Dimensions (include any mat)
5. Title (or write "untitled")
6. Medium (oil, acrylic, w/c, etc.)
7. Price (or write "not for sale")
8. Contact to Purchase (e-mail or phone)
9. Comment (optional)

Send the form information and a single art image to LCAL On-the-Wall Director Chris Tanner at chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net, but he can also be called at (847) 340-0275. He has a couple of members he can refer you to about how to get the best image.

- Images of your work should be approximately 2 MB in any format so the critique artist can look at details.
- Remove any glass to assure there is no reflection.
- Square up the piece. Make sure you don't distort it by photographing from an irregular angle.
- Photograph in natural daylight for the best color match. Try laying the piece flat on the ground outside (driveway, sidewalk, deck) and photographing from above (you may need to stand on a chair). Cloudy days are best.
- Nearly fill the frame of the camera with the desired image to get maximum pixel density.
- Take multiple shots and pick the best one.
- If you are emailing from your phone and are prompted to choose the image size, choose the largest option available.

- Artist Name _____
 - E-mail address _____
 - Image Dimensions _____
 - Framed Dimensions _____
 - Title _____
 - Medium _____
 - Price _____
 - Contact to Purchase _____
 - Optional Comment _____
-