



ISSUE #4 NOVEMBER 2022

OPAL NEWS

OHIO PASTEL ARTISTS LEAGUE

2022 EDITION

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



05

JACOB AGUIAR NOV. 5TH ZOOM MEMBER MEETING

Don't miss this. Demo and paint-along. No travel time. No excuses. You can even paint in your pjs!

("Fall demo for my Patreon crew") by Jacob Aguiar; 8x12, pastel. Follow Jacob on Instagram at [jacobaguiarpastelpainter](#)



Photo: Diane Ruock

04 HELLO MEMBERS

There's lots going on with OPAL. Join in the fun! See what we've been up to and be sure to mark your calendar for some exciting events.



Photo: Jacob Aguiar, Patreon page

05 ZOOM DEMO WITH JACOB AGUIAR

Join us for a demo and paint-along with the artist this Saturday via Zoom. Easy peasy... Don't miss it!



Photo: Lyn Asselta

6 SATURDAYS AT THE COVE

Artist inspiration from Lyn Asselta.



08 EVENT: ART MATERIALS SWAP MEET

A wonderful event shared by those who were lucky enough to attend and take home some wonderful art supplies!



Hello OPAL Members,

I hope that Fall has provided much inspiration for pastel painting. There has been some beautiful fall foliage around central Ohio.

The year has been rolling by quickly and we are fast approaching the end of 2022. Wow! For OPAL, we will be closing out 2022 with a **Saturday morning Zoom demonstration with Jacob Aguiar, November 5, 9 -11 am**. It is early, but you can participate in your pajamas, with a cup of coffee, and with your pastels at the ready! As described in the September/October newsletter, Jacob is a nationally known pastel artist. His work is beautiful and we are looking forward to this demonstration/discussion. A Zoom invite will be sent that first week of November.

Our December meeting will be a potluck/painting swap meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2022, 6:30-8:30 pm. We will be asking those that plan on attending to sign-up for bringing something to the potluck. The sign-up will work to ensure we don't have 20 dozen Christmas/Holiday cookies!). You'll see something about that sometime in November.

We voted in August to change our OPAL calendar to August through May, with June and July off, since those seem to be very busy months. So, we will have programs in January and February. **Those two meeting/programs will be on Saturday mornings, starting at 11 am. The dates are Saturday, January 7th and Saturday, February 4th.** Our February program will our own Kathryn Smithson demonstrating her animal painting techniques. The January program is still to be determined.

As of right now, our **2023 Member Exhibitions are scheduled for May/June at Gallery 22 in Delaware, and September at Westerville Community Center.** At our October meeting we voted to have judging and prizes awarded at both shows. Our Show Commissioners are working on themes for the shows. If you have any ideas, you can contact Chris Hall for the Spring show at Gallery 22 or Nina Hawranick for our Fall show at the Westerville Community Center.

As we have been communicating, we have an **In-Person Workshop scheduled for May 5-6, 2023 with Chris Ivers.** She will be giving a demonstration to our members on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at our regular OPAL Member meeting. Guests may attend, but there will be a \$10 fee for their attendance. Pertain Gillespie-Buckland will be providing details on costs, schedule, and supply list soon.

Mayme Hausman has been creating a beautiful OPAL Newsletter for us! Thank you Mayme! **As a reminder, please provide Mayme Hausman (mayme@lehaus.com any information you may want published in our Newsletter. That may include, classes you are teaching, up-coming workshops you know about, neat tips and tricks you have learned, exhibitions/shows you may be participating in, etc.** Information is due to Mayme by the 15th of the month so she has enough time to create the Newsletter for publication by the 1st of the month.

We hope that all of you can participate in one or all activities and look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Pam Hartford, OPAL President

DON'T MISS THIS....NOVEMBER MEETING:

ZOOM PAINTING WITH JACOB AGUIAR

(PAINT IN YOUR PJS!)



November 5, 2022
OPAL MEMBER MEETING - DEMO & DISCUSSION featuring: JACOB AGUIAR"

9:00 - 11:00 am
Location: *ONLINE via Zoom*

ABOUT JACOB AGUIAR:

My pastel journey began in 2011. Burned out in naturopathic medical school and ready for a change of scenery, I left Seattle and moved to the town of Sebastopol in the San Francisco Bay area. Throughout my life art was a constant companion, whether I was actively drawing and painting, or just thinking about art, and all the amazing artwork I would create "when I finally had enough time." In 2011, at age 27, that art was to become a priority in my life and not just a fantasy, or a dream I would eventually pursue. That year I traveled throughout the west and southwest attending workshops with some of my favorite pastel artists. Pastel painting became an obsession, and I'd spend 10-12 hours per day thinking about painting, watching videos, reading books, and ultimately attempting my hand at painting. Many of those first pieces, probably the first 75-100, were utter failures. They were cringe-worthy, but I had caught the painting bug, and the subtle improvements I saw in my work were motivation to keep with it. I heard the words of more experienced artists emphasizing that time at the easel was the way to become a better artist. After that year of total immersion, I finished my degree and picked painting back up in 2014. Though life has become very full over the last several years (wife and kids, dog, house, medical career...the dream), I have always made painting a priority.

One thing I always wished I had when learning to paint in pastels was a mentor, an instructor, somebody I could turn to when I felt stuck or needed support. In-person workshops are not always feasible, often fill up fast, and can be expensive when you add up travel, hotel, food, and workshop fees. Further, my focus is shifting from teaching in-person workshops to this virtual teaching format. It's no longer sustainable for me to teach 10-12 workshops per year, help raise two young kids, and continue my medical practice. So something had to give! (Fast-forward...I now offer workshops via Patreon.)

Visit my PATREON page (www.patreon.com): (<https://www.patreon.com/user?u=18127540>) My number one goal as a painting instructor has always been and will continue to be helping you achieve your painting goals. Whether your goal is to be an internationally known pastelist, or an artist who paints for the sheer pleasure of producing something with your hands, I want you to feel as fulfilled by your art as I have been over these past 9 years. The graduated tiers I am offering (via Patron) run the gamut from video demonstrations to personal one-on-one mentoring.

- from Jacob's Patreon page, edited by Mayme Hausman. Please join us on 11/5/2011 for OPAL's Demo and Discussion with Jacob.

SATURDAYS AT THE COVE WITH LYN ASSELTA

FROM LYNASSELTA.COM



Lyn Asselta: Study, 8 x 8 pastel

Restless.

That's the word that comes to mind as I watch the leaves falling and twirling about in the wind, great heaps of them wafting through the air while others take flight from the porch floor each time an errant gust comes along. Just when I think they've settled, they're once again blown about like confetti in the sunlight.

There seems to be a restlessness to autumn that doesn't exist in other seasons. Caught between two extremes - the hot, relaxed, expansive days of summer and the shorter, darker, more introspective days of winter - autumn sometimes feels as though it pitches recklessly back and forth between the two until it finally has no choice but to relinquish itself to the latter.

Lately, I am feeling that restlessness, too, and I wonder where it will take me, what I'll create because of it, how it will pick me up like those leaves and set me down somewhere, hoping it will do so gently.

Another gust comes along and sends dozens of leaves back up into the air, spiraling like small tornadoes. I focus on one gold leaf and watch as it drifts down and catches between two grey rocks in the yard, suddenly making something altogether new, a tiny sculpture of freckled granite and neon yellow, rough against smooth, paper against stone. To witness it is to notice that these rocks I hadn't given a thought to before have, surprisingly, become something beautiful with this colorful new addition.

I'm certain, after watching this, that restlessness is yet another unexpected gift. It's unpredictability both upends us and encourages us; it causes us to look deeper, to learn more, to wriggle out of places where we could all-too-easily find ourselves stuck in the sameness that permits us to get too comfortable in our lives. Restlessness teases us and makes us look at life from new perspectives. It offers us the incentive to grow, to change, to seek new possibilities, to discover. It opens our eyes.

For now, I feel no need to clear the leaves from my porch. Instead, I'm happy to let the wind take them wherever it pleases for a while longer.

We've all heard the term "creative discontent". This is really a form of restlessness. When we are creatively discontent, we find it hard to be satisfied with our creativity, frustrated with what we're producing, maybe even a bit jaded. We strive to find ways to change things up, to un-block, to work through. But, this creative discontent also drives us and propels us forward. It takes us to places we've never been.

Perhaps the key is not only to be willing to accept that creative discontent will happen to each of us over and over again, but to make friends with it, to enjoy the uncertainty of it, to trust in the process.

Wishing you a beautiful week,
Lyn

ART SUPPLY SWAP!



THIS MEETING WAS NOT TO BE MISSED!

October's meeting was an "Art Swap". Members brought art supplies, magazines, books, paints, pastels, stickers, rubber stamps and even a plein air easel to swap. As members arrived, we each wrote our name on a strip of paper and gave to Nina for the name drawing.

At the end of the meeting, a name was drawn to start the art swap. When the first lucky person (Pertain) took items she wanted, the coveted plein air easel (donated by Nina), a second name was drawn, and so on. We went through that process twice and then it was a free for all for the rest of the loot! Thanks to everyone who brought items to swap, especially Diane who donated more than half of the supplies. Thanks to Debbie Shatzer for bringing food and drinks.



MEETINGS



Saturday November 5, 2022
JACOB AGUIAR VIA ZOOM
www.patreon.com & www.jacobaguilar.com
9:00 - 11:00 am
Zoom video demonstration and discussion.
Location: ONLINE via Zoom

December 1, 2022
OPAL MEMBER MEETING HOLIDAY POTLUCK/PAINTING SWAP
6:30 - 8:30 pm
CoHatch-Worthington –
The Library
752 High St.
Worthington, OH 43085

Saturday, January 7, 2023
OPAL 1st MEMBER MEETING of 2023 PROGRAM TBD
11:00 am
Location: TBD

Saturday, February 4, 2023
OPAL MEMBER MEETING with DEMO BY KATHY SMITHSON
11:00 am
Location: TBD



Mary Bauer: *Sunrise at the Carousel Museum*, pastel. On display at the Plein Air Society's exhibition at the Mansfield Art Center.

EXHIBITS

November 8 – 15, 2022
PLEIN AIR SOCIETY | Spotlight Gallery
mansfieldartcenter.org
The Ohio Plein Air Society is a collection of artists and art lovers sharing a common interest in outdoor painting. This exhibition will celebrate the plein air tradition with a juried group of works painted outdoors in the true spirit of plein air painting.

2023
2023 SPRING SHOW
May/June 2023
(More details will follow. Prizes to be awarded.)
Gallery 22
Delaware, OH

2023 FALL SHOW
September 2023
(More details will follow. Prizes to be awarded.)
Westerville Arts Center or
The Works; Newark, OH

EVENTS

Please submit any events of interest to mayme@lehaus.com

CLASSES

May 4, 2023
2023 CHRIS IVERS WORKSHOP
Demo for OPAL members.
May 5 & 6 workshop for paid attendees.
Location: East Broad Presbyterian Church

CONGRATULATIONS

OPAL member, **Mary Bauer**, received an *Award of Excellence* at the Ohio Plein Air Society's Annual Competition for her pastel, *Sunrise at the Carousel Museum*. Now on display at the Mansfield Art Center.

Congratulations to members who sold paintings at the **Fall OPAL Member Show**:

Chris Hall - 1; Angela Gage -1; Diane Ruck - 2
Kathy Smithson -1 Nina Hawranick -1

MARK YOUR CALENDAR OPAL DECEMBER MEETING

HO-HO-HO! HOLIDAY PARTY: POTLUCK & PAINTING SWAP



December 1, 2022

**OPAL MEMBER MEETING HOLIDAY
POTLUCK/PAINTING SWAP**

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Location:

CoHatch-Worthington

The Library

752 High St.

Worthington, OH 43085

Join us for a fun and festive holiday evening. Bring one of your favorite "flavors of the season": an appetizer, a salad or a delicious dessert. Be sure to bring one of your pastels too...wrapped-up and ready for giving, at our Annual Member Holiday Painting Swap. Good food, great art and wonderful painting friends...the perfect way to round out 2022.

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.

**IT'S EASY
TO GET YOUR
ARTWORK ONLINE**

There is a Gallery page on the OPAL website. Members may submit one piece of artwork electronically (under 5 mb) to ContactUs@ohiopastelartistsleague.org

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