

ART IN THE VILLAGE REPORT

BY JANET SANDERS

For many years we have looked forward to moving our annual spring show out of April. We finally made that change this year only to have record high temps, unusual for a time when we should expect something more in the mid-80s with a good breeze. The field looked especially good this year in both overall presentation of the tents and quality of the exhibitors' work. We were pleased to hear a repeating comment on what wonderful quality of work the visitors were finding. Sales were spotty with some exhibitors doing very well but others doing poorly. This happens at every show, even to some of our most talented artists. The high temperatures may have hurt sales overall but selling is a learned



process that can take time to learn what sizes, price points and subject matter our customers are looking to buy. Please do not get discouraged and keep working to up your game.

We started out the morning with the **Mountain Brook High School Jazz Band**. They were AWESOME! What a treat. We had a lot of compliments on the following



Artist Ahmad Austin cools off with a popsicle from Steel City Pops

2018-2019 MBAA Meeting Dates

Tuesday, September 11, 10AM - 12:30PM

Tuesday, September 25, 6 - 8PM

Tuesday, November 06, 6 - 8 PM

Thursday, November 15, 10AM- 12:30PM

Tentative dates for 2019 morning meetings third Thursday in January and March

Spring Show: May 4, 2019, FIRST Saturday in May

**All meetings will be at Emmet O'Neal Library, Crestline Village
50 Oak Street, Mountain Brook, AL 35213**

*"Promoting interest in art across the community
and encouraging the professional development of area artists"*

ART IN THE VILLAGE

BY JANET SANDERS

band, the **Choko Aiken Band**. They were the same band we have had for several years, but this year's music selection garnered lots of good comments. Music has become such a big part of the show that customers and exhibitors alike seem to think the show is over when the music stops. We will try to have the bands play the entire day next year.

We are so grateful for the assistance of **Troop 86**. We could not do this show without their help in hauling supplies, setting up and taking down tents. **The Belles** were on hand as our hostesses, handing out programs and sitting. Even more of them came in hoop skirts this year, adding to the festivities. A great hit was our Hand in Paw tent where we had a line waiting to visit with the therapy dogs and goats.

Our members were working behind the scenes way ahead of show day. New member **Joy Barnes** assembled the artist packets. **Cortney Perrine** made all our name tags. **Mary Mellen** and **Carolyn Mitchell** spent hours working out the field placements that went over to **Bev Bates** to make into the program. **Rick Plasters** and **Ed Wilson** retrieved the club supplies from storage. **Ron Lewis**, **Ed Wilson**, **Rick Plasters** and **Sam Chiarella** laid out the field. During the show, we had plenty of members working at Hospitality. Afterwards, **Jan Grant** and family accompanied Ed to the storage unit to repack our tents tables and chairs.

The quality of presentation and community contact at this show should make us all proud. Our reputation as a club continues to grow allowing us to secure great publicity and opportunities like the holiday show.



ART IN THE VILLAGE AWARDS



*Sue Taylor White
Professional Level*



*Rick Plasters
Semi-Professional Level*



*Emmy Grier
Emerging Artist/Hobbyist*

ART IN THE VILLAGE AWARDS ... CONT'D

Awards of Distinction



Mary Mellen



Melanie O'Keefe



Kathy Phares



Tricia Robinson



Gyl Turner



Sam Chiarella
Artist Volunteer



ANNUAL NORTONS FLORIST COMPETITION

Double congratulations for Nicki Cochran who not only won the Annual Nortons Florist Award, but she is expecting her second child as well.

THE PERPETUAL STUDENT

BY WILLIAM A. SCHNEIDER

The great thing about being an artist is that the journey never ends. But some artists seem to hit a plateau and stop improving.

There's an old saying, "If you do what you always did, you get what you always got". If we keep practicing the same errors, we remain stuck. We need a change of mindset... to view of ourselves as perpetual students. If most pieces are learning exercises rather than finished paintings we can experiment and continue to add new tools to our artistic toolkit. In a Zen sense we have no attachment. Musicians are very clear about separating practice from performance. They practice scales and arpeggios so that when they perform a solo they have the command of their instrument.

We need to identify what we need to work on. As my friend Dan Gerhartz says, "Attack your weakness". It's usually: drawing (shapes), value, color temperature relationships, or edges. For example, I was dissatisfied with the way I was rendering hands, so I bought *The Book of a Hundred Hands* by George B. Bridgman and copied every illustration into my sketchbook. By the time I had finished I not only understood the anatomy but also was able to capture the more expressive gestures of the hand. Here's a detail of one of my paintings.

Bryan Mark Taylor calls this "chunking". That is, identify one particular skill and practice that "chunk" until it is mastered. If you're working on value structure, don't worry about drawing, design, color, and narrative. Believe it or not this is the fastest way to master a new skill. Martial artists practice each block, strike, or kick in isolation, slowly at first and then with increasing speed. Finally they learn to chain them together into patterns or combinations (Katas). In a combat situation they don't have to think of each movement, they rely on muscle memory.

Another good idea is to work in a series. That is, paint the same object or scene a number of times to try out different approaches. This works well if you ask yourself "what if" questions. "What if I painted it in a very low key? What if it was high key? What if it was all in shades of blue? What if I sprayed it with alcohol and let it run? What if I did it in 25 strokes?" Some of these experiments may be terrible, but some may send your work in a new and interesting direction.

A great idea is to copy masterworks. Sargent did; Zorn did. In fact virtually all the great artists have done this type of research. The goal is to figure out the master artists' thought process. Why did they make the choices they did? We all want to be original, but the more we learn from other artists the more tools we have to express our own personality. Again, think of musicians. Eric Clapton copied Robert Johnson and B.B King and other blues greats to develop his own style. A great idea is to copy a masterwork in a different medium. Here's a Fechin oil painting copied in pastel.

Finally, we need to work as much as possible from life. The camera lies to us... especially about value, color, and edges. Working from life and squinting at the subject to simplify value, and edge relationships will help us grow. (working from photos will hold us back.)



THE PERPETUAL STUDENT...CONT'D BY WILLIAM A. SCHNEIDER

This article is shared with the artist's direct permission to MBAA.

Nationally recognized William A Schneider was awarded signature status in the Oil Painters of America (OPA), and recognized as Master Pastelist in the Pastel Society Of America. The International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS) named him to the Masters' Circle. Bill is the author of five art instruction books and has been published in numerous art magazines. Visit his web site at <https://schneiderart.com>

Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Shelby County Arts Center



The Shelby County Arts Council recently broke ground for the new Shelby County Arts Center at Old Mill Square in Columbiana, AL. The ceremony was held on May 31, 2018 on the grounds of the new Old Mill Square municipal park to be located on West College Street in Columbiana, AL. The new Shelby County Arts Center is a collaboration between Shelby County, the City of Columbiana, and the Shelby County Arts Council. The SCAC will be the centerpiece of the new municipal complex, occupying approximately twenty thousand square feet of the new the new thirty thousand square foot facility. The arts center will feature the Ebsco Fine Art Gallery, a 200-seat black box theater, expanded visual arts classrooms for drawing, painting and pottery, a metal-work foundry and expanded studios for music lessons. In addition, a 500-seat municipal mixed-use venue will be part of the project. Founded in 2005, by Terri Sullivan and a band of concerned citizens, the Shelby County Arts Council's mission is to support, nurture and promote the arts and cultural opportunities in Central Alabama. The Shelby County Arts Council believes that the infusion of art into a community raises the value of that community at every conceivable level. The SCAC is currently working with corporations and foundations on legacy naming opportunities. For more information on the new Shelby County Arts Center, please contact Bruce Andrews, Executive Director, 205.669.0044.

MEMBER NEWS

Annette and Phillip Forstall have made the outside of their property, Forstall Art Center, very artistic with new murals in the alleyway! They were very kind at Art in the Village when they came around distributing cookies and a 50% off coupon for all of the exhibitors! Thanks!



Anne Hicks has found her niche painting race car winners who participate in the Barber Motorsports Park races. She painted Josef Newgarden,

winner of the 2017 & 2018 Honda IndyCar Grand Prix of Alabama, and Simon Pagenaud, the 2016 winner. Anne says, "Who knew that painting race cars could be so fun?! I am having the time of my life, and my husband is so happy that I love being a motorsports painter." Anne is going to be a busy painter since she says, "I plan to paint every IndyCar racer who has ever won at Barbers."



Toby Klein won Best of Show for the recent Central Alabama Art Guild's show. Also taking home ribbons were MBAA members Dan McDaniel, Winnie Cooper, and Janice Eubanks.

Amy Peterson received "Best Cityscape" Award at the 2018 Spring Plein Air Invitational hosted by the Gadsden Museum of Art, for her painting entitled *Ebb and Flow, Stop and Go* 8x10 oil, overlooking the Coosa River and Hwy 411.



Terry Strickland is teaching a 5-day Portrait Workshop at The Florence Studio, in Florence, Italy. Oct 1-5, 2018, sign up at The Florence Studio website. <https://www.theflorencestudio.com/guest-instructed-special-workshops.html>

Here is a short video about the workshop. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWqE9EvTMJA>



MEMBER NEWS ... CONT'D



New member **Tiffanie Williamson-Martin** is featured in June's *Village Living* for her work in fashion.
 LINK: <http://www.villagelivingonline.com/people/summer-sewing-classes-coming-to-eol522/>

Portia Williams' art is on exhibit at The Joy Gallery during the month of June. Her latest art show, entitled *Abstracts, Landscapes and Animals* is an eclectic mix of small and medium sized works. Looking ahead, you are invited to Portia's reception of her work at Kessler lofts August 9, 5-6:00 at Forstall Art Center, 215 20th St. North, followed by a short walk at 6 to the Kessler Building, 1924 3rd Avenue North.



Congratulations to **Cindy Woods** who had a painting accepted into the juried Oil Painter's of America 2018 Salon Show and Exhibition. Show is at the Crooked Tree Arts Center in Traverse City, Michigan, from June 22-September 1, 2018.

Many of the yard signs around town are for **Nancy Christie's** son Chris who is running in the primaries for Attorney General.



MBAA members' art on display at Kessler's Lofts during the month of June include **Chris Cruz, Diane Hathcock, Mary Wier, Mara Jambor, Sandy Tilt.**



WORKSHOPS BY MEMBERS

Painted Scarves Workshop with Chris Cruz

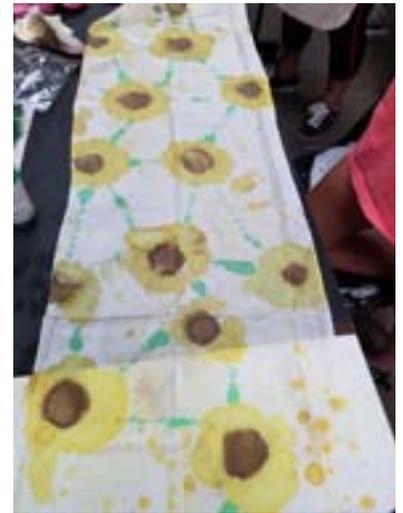
Date: Saturday, June 16th

Time: 10am-12pm

Cost: \$75 (all supplies included)

Alabama Art Supply: (205) (205) 322-4741

Artist treat any surface like it's a canvas! In this fun workshop artist Chris Cruz provides students with silk scarves and a variety of materials to create colorful abstract works of art you can wear! Students will use fabric dye and a variety of materials, such as bubble wrap, twine, and bottle caps, to paint and create different textures on the scarves. Each scarf is it's own unique work of art! Everyone will take home two completed scarves. Additional scarves can be purchased for \$10 each. All supplies and materials are provided for this workshop.



Lisa Opielinski Pop-Up Workshop

“Treasures from The Gulf”

Date: Friday, June 22, 2018

Time: 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Cost: \$75

Skills Studied: Color Wash, Collage and Image Transfer

Supplies Needed: all supplies and tools will be provided to create 2 paintings

Location: Workshop will be at Alabama Art Supply in Birmingham, 1006 23rd St. S.

You'll create 2 coastal-themed paintings on Ampersand Gessobord. Learn transfer techniques to add coastal fauna; like fish, coral, and shells. Select your favorite waterside colors and learn how to color wash.

Collage with paper to add softness and color variation. Register now to reserve your place in this fun and informative Pop-Up Workshop!

Raphael Brush Demo with Diane Hathcock

Saturday, June 23, 10am-12pm

\$15 to Reserve Your Spot (Participants Receive \$10 Gift Card)
(205) 870-0480

Join Forstall Art Center for a hands-on demo with local artist Diane Hathcock. Founded in Paris in 1793 and owned and operated by the Sauer family since 1859, Raphaël is the oldest fine art brush maker in Europe. Following the time-honored tradition of master and apprentice, the highly skilled craftswomen of Raphaël must train for years before they are ready to produce a Raphaël brush. The finest hairs and bristles are imported from all over the world and hand sorted to ensure the highest quality. Every brush made by Raphaël is made with the artist in mind.



WORKSHOPS BY MEMBERS . . . CONT'D

Liberate Your Creative Genius!

Mixed Media Workshop with Chris Cruz

Date: Saturday, July 14, 2018

Time: 10- noon and 1-3 (Two sessions)

Cost: \$75 per session

Alabama Art Supply: (205) 322-4741

Chris will give you the answer to one of the most asked questions of artists... "How do artists come up with their ideas when looking at a blank canvas?"

You will learn how to compose this mixed media project that incorporates color, collage, paint and found objects. All materials are included in this class, plus extras to play with in class!

Transform Old Furniture into Functional Works of Art with Chris Cruz



Date: Saturday, July 28

Time: 10am - 2pm.

Cost: \$125 (\$50 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit required to hold your place)

Forstall Art Center
(205) 870-0480

Refurbish flea market finds and brighten up old pieces to achieve looks from shabby chic to boho modern. Chris has a friendly style of teaching and will guide you step by step. She has been painting and up cycling furniture with a passion for years. Please bring with you a small piece of furniture that you wish to re-style, no be bigger than 24" wide.



Supplies provided: A selection of stencils, chalky, glossy, satin, metallic and staining paint colors from Deco Art. Due to the complexity of your chosen piece, we cannot guarantee you will complete your chosen project during this one-day workshop.

INQUIRY

We have an inquiry to our web site about a wedding painter. If you or any artist you know does wedding paintings, either in person or from photos, please contact JoAnn at jlm4fit@yahoo.com. She will need to see examples of your work.

THANKS

Thank you to past member Nancy Lloyd for donating her two-part screens to the club. Nancy is enjoying retirement in California and left behind the screens for member Etta Yeary to use. Thanks to Etta for facilitating the donation and delivering the screens. The club now has plenty of screens but could still use another tent. If anyone is thinking of getting rid of their tent, please consider us!

ONGOING CLASSES BY MEMBERS

FILL YOUR WEEK WITH ART! (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY ARTIST)

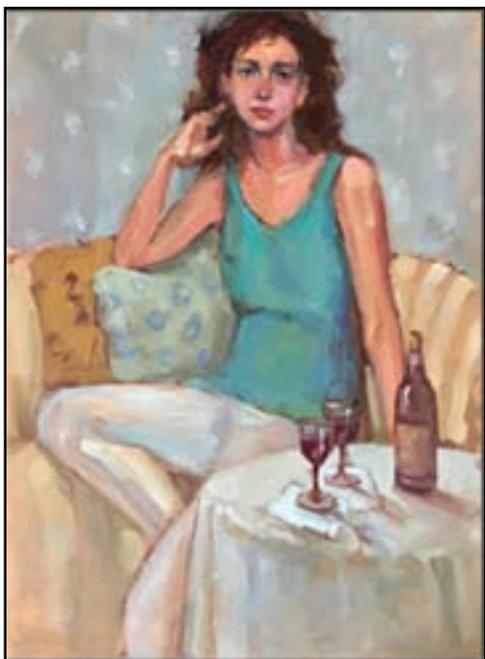
ACRYLIC MYSTERIES WITH BETH BRADLEY: SURPRISE YOURSELF WITH COLOR & TEXTURE

Forstall Art Center, Thursdays, 10:30am-1:00pm

\$150 for 4 weeks

Learn fresh and daring ways to free up your painting style and release your inner artist. Working with acrylic on canvas, you will incorporate elements like texture mediums and other ephemera to make lively and compelling paintings. Discover that inspired, lyrical painter you've always dreamed of being. Beth will take you every step of the way through creating an evocative piece of art from your heart.

On Monday nights from 5:30-8pm at her downtown loft, and Thursday mornings at Forstall, Beth Bradley offers continuous classes in loose, colorful acrylics and experimental painting. She exposes new & established artists to techniques for creating art that sells. Students also participate annually in two fun shows at her loft, as well as displays at Kessler Lofts with a reception at Forstall. Call or text Beth at 205.901.4620 for more info.



ART WITH AMY COLLINS

Enjoy painting with award winning artist, Amy Collins, in her Homewood studio off West Oxmoor Road.

Tuesdays: 9:30-12:30 and 1:30-4:30.

\$120/month (4 sessions).

135 Gemini Circle, Suite 201,
Homewood, 35209

(205)532-0106 <http://amypcollins.com/>.

INTRO TO IMPRESSIONISM WITH DIANE HATHCOCK

Forstall Art Center

870-0480

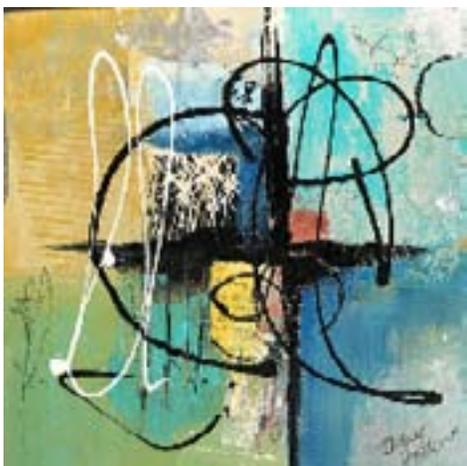
Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30pm

\$125 for 4 weeks

Learn to paint in the loose expressive style of the impressionists. Great for beginners and more advanced painters, Diane will show you how to capture the essence of your subject. While focusing on composition, value, color, and how to portray light, Diane will help you gain the skills necessary to express yourself in your painting. You are welcome to paint in oil or acrylic.



ONGOING CLASSES BY MEMBERS . . . CONT'D



JOURNEY INTO ABSTRACT WITH DIANE HATHCOCK

Forstall Art Center - 870-0480

Mondays, 5:30-8pm, \$125 for 4 weeks

Banish uncertainty in your painting and learn to trust yourself! In this four-week class, you will embark on a creative journey that will change how you approach abstract painting. Learn the visual language of shape, form, color and line that will allow you to create compelling compositions independent of visual references. Diane will share her ideas and techniques with you and help you develop your own intuitive responses. Start creating fun and exciting abstract paintings with an emphasis on spontaneity and visual sensation.

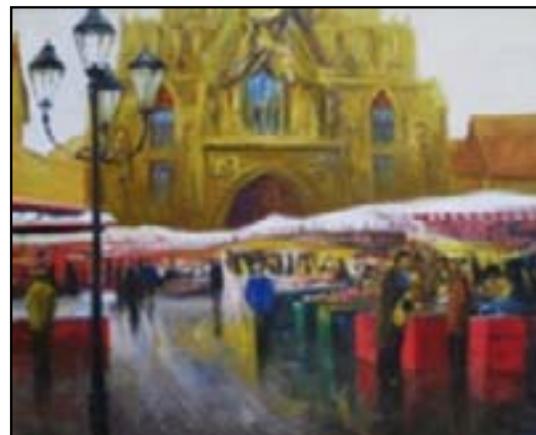
PAINTING WITH RON LEWIS

Tuesdays, 10 am - 4 pm

Alabama Art Supply (205) 322-4741

\$85per month

Ron Lewis is listed in *Who's Who in American Art* and is a signature member of the prestigious American Watercolor Society. Ron teaches classes in watercolor, acrylic, oil and alkyd.. Paint-a-longs with Ron or work on your own with individual critiques. Contact Ron at ronbeckylewis@aol.com or at ronaldlewisart.blogspot.com.



REALISTIC LANDSCAPES WITH MELANIE O'KEEFE

Wednesdays, 2:00 - 4:30 pm

Alabama Art Supply (205) 322-4741

\$35 per session

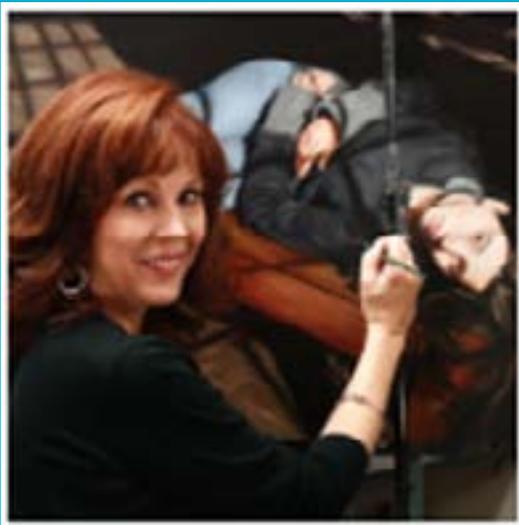
Make your acrylic landscape paintings more realistic with variations in light, reflections and ripples in water. We will work on the transitions between light and dark, and discuss how trees and lines grow to help you paint them more realistically.

email melanieokart@gmail.com or phone (205) 602-4850 for more information.

ONGOING CLASSES BY MEMBERS . . . CONT'D

CONTEMPORARY OIL PAINTING REALISM WITH TERRY STRICKLAND

Second & Fourth Tuesdays of the month, 9:30am-12:30pm or 1:30-4:30pm, \$200 for 6 weeks.
At Forstall Art Center. Contact Terry at 205 529-9859 for info or to register.
<http://terrystricklandart.com/index.html>



Terry Strickland's highly realistic portraits in oil represent a refined beauty acquired through years of work and dedication to her art. Her skillful delicacy with a brush is brought to life for her students through thoughtful, incisive instruction.

Convincing illusions in oil paint are only a class away! Award-winning artist Terry Strickland leads you through this "back to basics" class, designed for all skill levels and appropriate for every student desiring to paint in a realistic manner. Working from still life, live models, and photographs, you will explore color theory and paint mixing while learning the tried & true skills necessary to render three-dimensional forms and capture light with oil paint.

Terry's award-winning work has been shown extensively at galleries and museums in solo, group, and juried shows throughout the United States. It has received recognition from, appeared in or been written about by: The Huffington Post, The Artist's Magazine,

Drawing Magazine, American Art Collector, The Art Renewal Center, The Portrait Society of America, International Artist Magazine, Huntsville Museum of Art, the Mobile Museum of Art and others. She has taught painting at Forstall for five years. Previously she taught privately, at Space One Eleven, Birmingham Museum of Art and Brevard Community College in Florida.

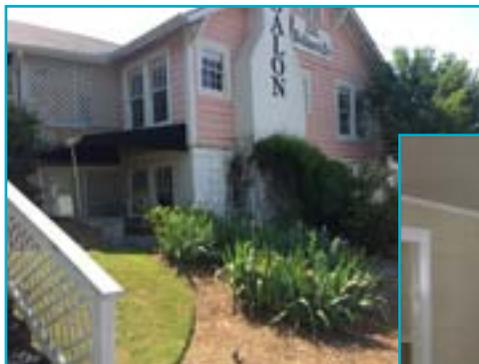
X'S 8 LIVE FIGURE MODEL DRAWING , Forstall Art Center

Tuesdays, 6-8pm. \$8 per class.
Non-Instructional.

This figure drawing group is open to all serious artists from beginner to advanced. The models are nude and will rotate between male and female. No one under the age of 18 may attend.

ARTIST STUDIO SPACE FOR RENT

Barclay Borland Gresham reports, "My grandmother has a cute house she is wanting to rent to an artist. (Working and selling studio) Rooms \$100-300 per month. It is in Cahaba Heights at 3131 Bellwood Drive located directly behind the Starbucks/learning express shopping center." Call Terry Borland for further information or clarification at (205) 862-4620.



CLUB EMAIL - mtnbrookkartassoc@gmail.com

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