

MVAL

Art & the Artist

May 2020

Newsletter for the Mid-Valley Arts League



Felicia Hazelton

Meetings Canceled
MVAL Painting at Home!

MID-VALLEY ARTS LEAGUE 2019- 2020 BOARD OFFICERS

President ----- John Byram
First Vice President (Programs)
----- Elana Goldheimer
Second Vice President
(Membership) ----- Deanne Ruiz
Third Vice President
(Exhibits) ----- Fran Ortiz
Treasurer ----- Lee Johnson
Recording Secretary - Heidi Fintescu
Corresponding Secretary
----- Pam McGuern
Parliamentarian -----Armando Ruiz

Membership in MVAL:
Membership is open to artists and art lovers
of all levels.
If you are interested in membership
contact: Deanne Ruiz - 626-331-8270
deanneruiz@verizon.net

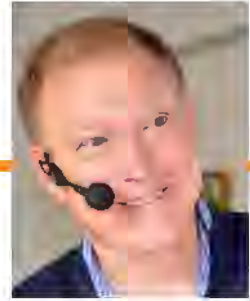
WEBSITE:
Midvalleyartsleague.org
or MVAL.org
Website Editor: Kimberly Michael

Art & the Artist Editor:
Joyce Nunamaker

All articles and announcements
to be included in the
Art & the Artist may be sent to:
253 Windsong Court
Azusa, CA 91702
626-334-1646
E-mail: janunamaker@verizon.net

Deadline is the first Wednesday of the
month. If you have an event that takes
place in the first half of the month - be
sure to get it in the month before.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope this time finds all of you coloring the
world with inspiring art full of love and optimism!

A big shout out to the scholarship committee, Kate McDaniel, Susan Gutschow
and Serena Refoua, for completing the selection and disbursement process
for MVAL's scholarships and grants this year ... helping us complete the MVAL
mission come rain, or snow, or

So, what else has been going on?

Well, I guess the electronic connection we're being forced into isn't all bad:
During my plein air groups' ZOOM cocktail hour, Wayne Hunt (the last general
meeting demonstrator) used his wizardry and critiqued our paintings on-line.
Sid Bingham and I never knew our work could look so good – cropped by
a master!

One only need glance at the headlines to see that, at a time when ART
is suffering from the effects of a global health and economic crisis,
the contribution by ARTISTS couldn't be stronger. Bringing people together,
inspiring; soothing; sharing, caring, seeing, these are the powers of art –
the importance of which now couldn't be made clearer. Isn't it ironic that,
even in a period of personal distancing, the "connections" artists provide are
more relevant than ever? As we head out of this period, we can change things
as only artists can. Create a world of beauty, of kindness, of truth, as only we
can see it.

I wish you and your loved ones a safe passage through this difficult intermission.
Please take care, stay positive and find time for having fun and smiling.

John Byram
President

MEETING DATES

MAY GENERAL MEETING
CANCELLED

JUNE BOARD MEETING

The June Board Meeting will be held June 3rd - 7:30 PM
Location to be determined, most likely to be phone conference.

EVENT CANCELLATIONS

The May General Meeting is canceled.

ON THE COVER

The cover this month was painted by Felicia Hazelton. "Edge of the Shore, Among the Rocks", w/c on Yupo

MVAL COOP DURING COVID-19

Motivated artists don't let a pandemic stop them from creating if they can possibly help it! So in March, when the City of El Monte notified us that they were closing the facilities at Zamora Park until further notice (where COOP Monday sessions are held), we jumped into action.

Each week, a different artist takes responsibility for the week's "lesson." More often, since we can't get together these days, it's just a prompt rather than a lesson. After COOP artists complete the lesson, they can upload their work to a Dropbox file online to share with other COOP artists. Other COOP artists can then view and comment on the uploaded work. It's been a fun way to stay connected during these disconnected times.

BOARD POSITIONS

HOPING IN PLACE

As we look to our future, we proceed with optimism, many Board positions already filled. We are in need of a few more volunteers to complete our 2020-2021 Roster, they are:

Exhibition Chair- Third VP: Conduct the yearly members exhibition. This is done with team members.

Artist of the Month: Arrange and present the monthly art brought by members at the General Meetings.

A/V Technology: Work with a team to setup the cameras and lights at the General Meetings and Workshops, when needed.

Finance Chair: Manages the financial review of the organization. Reports to the Board.

Raffle: Conduct the Raffle at the General Meetings.

If you need any details about the positions listed, please contact Armando Ruiz at 626-331-8270. All of the positions work best

SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee has received two requests for school grants and one student scholarship request. Our plan is to review these requests and make a commitment to each applicant. Our Scholarship Fund raiser has been postponed. Please continue to think about what you might donate to the fund raiser.

Kate McDaniel, Susan Gutschow
and Serena Refoua
Scholarship Co-Chairs

THURSDAYS IN PLEIN AIR

All "Thursdays in Plein Air" Meetings are canceled until further notice.

If you are on Facebook, join the "Thursdays in Plein Air" Facebook Page.

The Facebook page will keep you updated on any changes and connected with the other painters!

If you are spending your time painting in your home or backyard, you are welcome to share your paintings in the Facebook Group and keep in touch.

ON-LINE CLASSES

Online Watercolor and Sketching classes

at super affordable rates, beginner and intermediate levels. You can use a smartphone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer and the Zoom app or Facetime.

Each lesson will cover a new watercolor technique and subject, depending on your personal interests: landscape, still life, figure painting, wild life, cityscapes, and more.

REGISTRATION and discovery conversation by phone 213-200-9398,

email crisgordy@sbcglobal.net -

Payment via Venmo or Paypal. First class FREE.

Send email to Cris Gordy to participate in Tea and Art, a free opportunity to paint/sketch together and commune with fellow artists via Zoom, with weekly prompts.

Find inspiration in step-by-step watercolor exercises on Cris' website, www.artspirationforall.org.

Julie Crouch has

been teaching online classes called Painting Yourself Calm with Watercolor on Zoom through Creative Arts Group in Sierra Madre, but I don't know if you want to include that, Joyce. I taught 2 4-week sessions in April and will be teaching 3 4-week sessions in May.

NOMINATED BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2019-2020

Here is the corrected list for Nominated Board Members.

Notice that we still have open positions. For any position there are guidelines and written material plus the help and support of the board and people who have held that position in the past. We make it easy!

If you are interested in contributing to MVAL as a board member or a director's position (helper and board member in training), contact **Armando Ruiz** or **John Byram**.

President	John Byram
First V.P. (Program)	Elana Goldheimer
Second V.P.(Membership)	Deanne & Armando Ruiz
Third V.P.(Exhibit)	Need Chair
Treasurer	Lee Johnson
Recording Secretary	Hedy Fintescu
Corresponding Secretary	Pam McGuern
Parliamentarian	Armando Ruiz

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Artist of the Month	Need Chair
Editor, Art & Artist	Joyce Nunamaker
Mailing, Art & Artist	Fred McCall
Archivist	Jan Wright
AV/Technology	Need Team
Directory	Julie Crouch
Finance	Need Chair
Gallery	Jeannine Savedra
Guest Host	April Drew Foster
Inspiration	Mary Gilman
Photographer	Linda Salinas

Property	Rick McGuern
Publicity	Mark Wood
Raffle	Need Chair
Refreshments	Tomiko Higuchi & Jim Brestcher
Masters in the Park	Mel Peters
Scholarship	Kate McDaniel & Susan Gutschow
Video Library	Glenn Yoshida
Website	Kimberly Michael
Workshops	Carol Ling

DIRECTORS

Directors to 6/2019

Directors to 6/2020

Directors to 6/2021

MEMBERSHIP DUES

This is the time of year when we send out membership dues letters.

You should have received that, but due to the Corona Virus Shut Down we are extending the time frame in which dues need to be sent in. Instead of end of June the deadline this year will be July 31st.

MVAL - SHARE THE LOVE OF ART

MVAL Members are really a creative bunch of people! The following pages are things that have been sent to me this month to include in the newsletter. I think everyone will really enjoy seeing what people have been up to.

It appears that we will not be able to meet in a large group until, hopefully, the fall. I'd like to do another issue like this in June. If this inspired you to participate, please, share your comments, observations, sketches and even pictures of your studio or work area. Provide a few comments about your art. You could also submit a favorite quote about art, or anything else of interest!

If you have a smart phone you can take a picture with it and email it directly from your phone. Don't worry about quality!

Help keep the League viable and in communication during this strange time. Let's make next months newsletter as interesting as this one is!

Please send images or comments by
June 3rd

Send them to Joyce Nunamaker via email:
janunamaker@verizon.net

APRIL FOSTER

Art Through the Virus

Mid March I did plants and pottery in my backyard
Then the toilet paper
Then after watching so much news, I decided to do all
the news anchors's faces in my daily drawings journal. I
can't wait to get out and paint with my art friends!
Gayle, Tony, Rachel and Anthony.



CHRIS GORDY

Cris Gordy's demo at John Byram's class.
Watercolors and inks.



BEVERLY SQUIRE

My painting entitled, "Garden Serenity", 9 x 12, Oil on board.
The painting was done on location, in Plein air, at Arlington
Gardens.



CHRIS FRAUSTO

I have been prolific in getting many of my bookbinding
projects finally done I have had so many ideas for so long
that it is actually nice to have down time to implement
them!

1. This first image is of "It's In The Mail," a book that is made
entirely of solicitation envelopes I get in the mail. I have used
their windows as windows to my art.
2. The second image is of a 5" tall journal made from a
cardboard insert from a ramen package.



DORIS FRIEDMAN

Gardening and painting.
The great joys and escapes,
particularly at this time in
our lives.



CARMEN DAUGHERTY

I have been making good use of this time to paint and sketch. I started out making small practice florals. I turned them into greeting cards and sent them to friends and family. I sewed fabric masks for family and friends and sketched about it. I participated in a daily sketching/painting challenge called Pleinairpril on Instagram and sketched or painted my garden or the view from my window daily in April. And I am taking 2 online classes on Zoom, one with Julie Crouch called Paint Yourself Calm. The last photo is a wet into wet piece I did for her class. Keeping busy.



IKE IKEDA

Michi and I are both doing well, going out for a walk, painting, tending flower and veggie garden, watching movies, reading and listening to music, etc.

We would have been in Spain now for a painting trip but obviously it had to be cancelled. I had been using a small palette trying to get used to for plein air painting there but somehow my painting got too tight. The theme for the Coop class (which, of course, we are not having now but still participating via email and displaying paintings on Drop Box) for this week is to paint using just one brush. So, I took out a large palette and jut let myself loose using a two-inch flat brush on a full size sheet. It was exhilarating and fun.



JILL MORRISON

Forty days at home, and I am talking to the trees as I walk. I always start my walk on So. Orange Grove, Pasadena. This tree has been talking to me, it needed a tongue and some eyes. I gave it a personality, A magnolia leaf painted pink for a tongue, and plastic ball for eyes, painted blue with brown iris and a dab of white for a sparkle. A husband to go on a ladder, and place everything, and this is what I got. This made me smile and the people passing us chuckle. Hope this put a smile on your face.



JANWRIGHT

I'm busy every minute with cooking, cleaning, yard work, communications with family/friends, etc. I still haven't settled into painting during COOP time every week because I've been "pruning" keepsakes, sorting, throwing away, etc. We walk a loop in our neighborhood every day and Roy goes to pick up the PO mail several times a week. Otherwise, we're behind closed doors. Our big excitement is having groceries delivered. April 2020 is the longest YEAR I've ever had! We miss everyone and can't wait to get back to some version of normal. What I've learned is how much we take for granted.



LAURA BARNES

Flowers from my garden, while I stay at home.



KATE MCDANIEL

Some pages of an ABC book I have been working on while we have been in quarantine!



LAURIE GILLIS

I have attached a recent painting. I am just a little bit beyond a beginner, so keep that in mind! I've been gardening too. I'm hoping the garden will inspire some new paintings!



LEE JOHNSON



the Corona Experimental Series...

Since the beginning of the quarantine I have been trying to do one experimental painting each day...looking through all of those books on my shelf bought for inspiration. Turns out, yes, lots of ideas have been hiding there.

So, what to do with these experiments? I decided to order a clothesline and clothes pins from Amazon. Who in this day has a clothesline? Not me. With help, it was installed between two ash trees in the front yard. Each day, the 'one day closer to a healthy world tomorrow is (the day)...' Sign is changed and a new experimental painting is added to the line. The series is called Corona Experimental Series.

The result has been lots of fun for me...trying out new stuff. And, the best part has been that my neighbors who walk each day have enjoyed the display. We live on a cul-de-sac so they get to see the art going and coming! Messages have been posted. I took down a couple and one walker asked for one back...she liked the colors. Neighborhood children are counting. Some are following the nesting of our hummingbird which is also posted. One message contained some origami cranes...one asked for me to do a Mother's Day painting for her mom.

We have met neighbors we had not known before...we have rekindled friendships through the conversations held at a social distance through the Corona Experimental Series. I just hope we don't need to do this much longer.



KIMBERLY MICHAELS

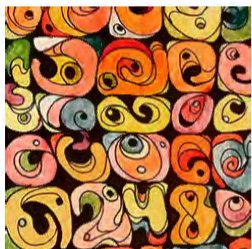
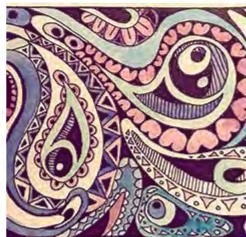
Quarantine has been a very active creative period for me. So much extra time, and proximity to a creative outlet. I'm fortunate to have a separate studio on our property, so I can have a change of pace during the day, escaping the house (where I am sheltering with my husband, who was working from home, and one son, 20) to my creative space. Access to this space has really helped with cabin fever. The current limitations on public interaction have strangely expanded

my artistic boundaries. An odd turn, as I was mostly a homebody to begin with. I've been experimenting with layered abstraction in acrylic & mixed media, mostly on paper substrates.



LYNNE FEARMAN

During this pandemic, I decided to paint 4-5 postcards sized watercolors a day to share with friends and fellow artists. It's been very therapeutic, and much better than listening to the endless bad news. Now I'm even starting to receive some wonderful art in the mail. This really makes my day brighter. I'm up to 65 sent so far. 100 is my goal.



PEGGY EBRIGHT

I was lucky enough to have a commission during our house arrest..of a friend's chicken. It was 32 X 40 - huge - and here she is, looking truly how she looks.

And her name?

Ruth Bader Ginsbird.

(I am not making this up)



MARCIANO MARTINEZ



MARY ARCHIBALD

Self distancing since March 11.

My husband Rick is also ok at the nursing home.

I miss seeing him since he is in quarantine.



I have done lots of gardening and bird watching. Here are two small paintings of the doves in our tree outside my window on a rainy day.



MARK WOOD

Here is a recent painting. Had a model that I stayed 6' away from until she asked me to back up a bit more.



ROSINA MAIZE

The spring rain has been great for our backyard flowers, hasn't it! I have done several flower portraits, and can't resist doing more. Here are two of them - iris and camellia. Still working on the calla lilies.



MEL PETERS

Our daughter, son in love & 1 yr old toddler were visiting us from San Francisco when the lockdown occurred. These last 2 months has blessed us with a rare opportunity for family bonding while they've remained here with us.

When I saw this father-son moment in our family room, I quickly grabbed my cell phone to snap a photo thinking it might make a good painting.

Occasionally a photo happens to capture several components which inadvertently adds drama, like father Charlie's hand/fingers, body gestures, clothing contrasting with background, color & size of book, soft, warm & reflective lighting, the shadow pointing toward focal point, etc.

I suspect the narrow range of color & value helped to make this a surprisingly easy scene to paint. Or, maybe it was because of its personal significance to me.

More importantly, I feel this painting symbolizes the unexpected blessings of family bonding many of us are experiencing during these challenging times.



PRADEEPA THIRUMULU



PETE MORRIS

I've been teaching Zoom classes and working on sketchbooks. I've attached a few recent sketchbook entries.



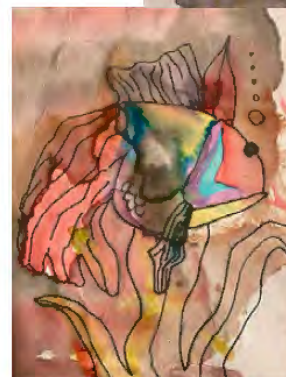
WILLIE MCFARLAND

I have been driving my husband to the City of Hope. Care-givers must wait outside or come back later to pick up their loved ones. The rose garden is lovely and close to the parking lot. So the wait is very pleasant. Lots of time to read and sketch.



JULIE CROUCH

Right before the stay-at-home order, I had found a wonderful book by Mona Brookes called Drawing with Children. During my weekly baby sitting gig with my granddaughters, we had started drawing the lessons together. Then COVID-19 hit and I could no longer be with the girls. I decided to draw an animal each day and send it to my kids to share with their kids so they could add color with whatever media they had at hand. It has been so much fun and it's kept me drawing every day (a longtime goal of mine that I've never seemed to accomplish). We now have over 50 drawings and paintings! Here are some of 3-year-old Quinn's masterpieces.



JULIE APABLAZA

This is one of my more recent Paintings. Although it is more of a Fall theme, I thought Pomegranates are a symbol of prosperity.

Our Friday class at the Brand Studio has been canceled. We still submit our weekly paintings to John, our instructor to Instagram.

At least having a goal of a once a week painting exercise forces us to have a schedule. Whatever it takes to stay focused!



Since we are spending our sunny days in the garden pulling weeds, this was an idyllic composition for Spring.



QUOTEABLE QUOTES

"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet".
- Aristotle

"Create art that allows us to see the Sacred".
- Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D.

"Leave the painting slightly unfinished,
so the viewer can fill in the mystery."
- Chris Van Winkle



JOYCE NUNAMAKER FRED MCCALL

I've decided to share what we would have been doing. I'd been pushing for months making things to sell in my booth at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire. It takes a lot of stuff to fill a booth for 7 weekends with each day having up to 6000 customers walk by. Beginning of March we had gone to our first meeting, and had unpacked a 3' tall 16' long skid of lumber that is the frame and most of the walls of a 20' x 22' booth. Two weeks later we were packing it back up, on what was the first day of "stay at home".

We are really missing the faire, we spend most of the year preparing for it and it is our most social time of the year.

