

MVAL

Art & the Artist

December 2021

Newsletter for the Mid-Valley Arts League



Nancy Shiershke

Demonstration by Debbie Abshear
Enjoy your Winter Holidays!

**MID-VALLEY ARTS LEAGUE
2020- 2021
BOARD OFFICERS**

President ----- John Byram
First Vice President (Programs)
----- Elana Goldheimer
Second Vice President
(Membership) ----- Deanne Ruiz
Third Vice President
(Exhibits) ----- Dilmit Singh
Treasurer ----- Lee Johnson
Recording Secretary
----- Carmen Daugherty
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

Hello Artists!

I've always believed that, "we're not here for a long time; we're here for a good time." Well Peter McDonald — who painted demos here at MVAL — was not here nearly long enough, but he left us with many a good time and a more humble, genuine soul you'd be hard-pressed to find.

December's meeting should be a good one: Debbie Abshear is to be our demonstrator. I love artwork around the holidays and seeing the art calendars for the new year. Don't you?

By the way, we are looking for someone to join the membership committee. Armando Ruiz has a succinct description inside this newsletter, so please let him know if you'd like to serve and help keep MVAL moving forward. Also, we are looking for someone to help out the scholarship committee with the art auction, so if you think you can be of assistance, please contact a board member.

I'm so excited to have Dale Laitinen, Richard E Scott, Linda Kemp and Janet Rogers in the mix of artist for the upcoming demonstrations and workshops ... so stay tuned. Liza Carrillo and Carol Ling are doing a stupendous job getting such great talent to contribute to our programs!

Hope to see you all at December's members meeting.

John Byram
MVAL President

MEETING DATES

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

ZOOM MEETING

December 15th, 2021- 7:30 PM

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

January 5th, 2022- 7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting unless otherwise directed.

DECEMBER DEMONSTRATION

DEBBIE ABSHEAR

WATERCOLOR DOODLING INTERACTIVE DEMONSTRATION

Have paper/sketchbook, watercolor, brushes and marker pens at hand.

You will be able to join in painting during this class!

So, why a doodling class? Why teach a doodling class? Please don't discount the value of doodling. Anytime you spend creating art is healthy for your mind. .

There are so many things to remember when painting, all of the rules of composition, values, warm colors, cool colors, the list is endless. I decided to paint with my heart and a desire to connect to my world. Paintings do not need to be something, they need to make you feel something. Give yourself time to create without the pressure of an outcome. Do it because you love creating and explore something new!

Debbie Abshear is a watermedia artist specializing in Plein Air landscapes and Experimental Watermedia. She has exhibited at the National Watercolor Society, Oceanside Museum of Art, Santa Paula Museum of Art, CSU Dominguez Hills, Fallbrook Art Center Signature Show, Watercolor West @ Brea Gallery as well as many local galleries in the Los Angeles area.

Debbie earned her Signature Membership in the Watercolor West organization in 2014 and was honored to be included in the Northlight Publishers book, 'Splash 15', featuring the best 100 watercolor artists.

Debbie served as a Governing Board Member of the National Watercolor Society for 6 years. She holds membership in the National Watercolor Society, Valley Watercolor Society, Watercolor West, South Bay Watercolor Society, Torrance Artists Guild and the Pacific Art Guild.



ZOOM MEETING

You will receive an email before the meeting telling you how to log on ZOOM to attend. The meeting will be open for log-in starting around 7pm.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Since we are all still meeting virtually, we will continue to have Artist of the Month on the website

Please read our new instructions on the MVAL website. We have a new time frame so you have more time to submit your artwork! Almost a month! There is no theme and artwork can be any media.

MVAL member can email their image of their painting to mval.webmaster@gmail.com

Files must be cropped in a jpg.or png. Format and under 1000 pixels on the longest side. It is helpful if the file names the title, e.g. "thispaintingname.jpg. Please include the title, media and dimensions and your name in the email. Please text Kimberly Michael (626 688 4344) if you have technical questions.

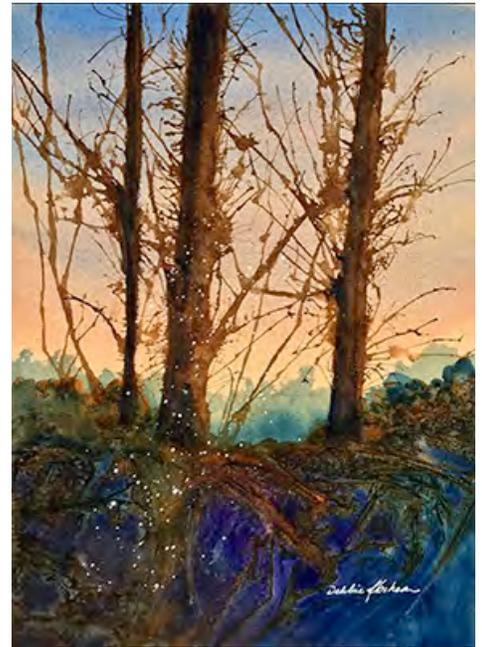
Submissions are accepted from the day after the general meeting until midnight the Friday, Dec. 10 before the next general meeting, Dec. 15. Voting is live on www.midvalleyartsleague.org for 4 days from Sunday, Dec. 12 until noon on the day of the general meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 15.

The winner of Artist of the Month is announced at the end of the meeting and will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. The painting can then be viewed on "Virtual Art of the Month" in the Membership dropdown menu as well as in the newsletter.

April Drew Foster - *Chairman*
Kimberly Michael - *Website Chairman*



MORE WORK BY DEBBIE ABSHEAR



Wanted - MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Dear Members, Deanne Ruiz has been membership chair for many years and she now needs to move on to different chapter in her life. She needs to take care of her health.

Mid-Valley Arts League is in need of a volunteer to take on this important office for the 2021-2022 term, which is carried out best by at least two persons. Now is an excellent time to begin the transition to be the chair. YOU are needed.

At first, the chair receives a membership application and then becomes a primary greeter and welcomes incoming members, by providing information about the history and functions of the organization. The chair provides details about our meetings, demonstrators, workshops and classes, by linking the interests of new members with our activities a strong organization is formed. Secondly, the chair keeps records of applications, dues, renewal fees and provides this specific information to the Treasurer and the Directory Chair. A brief report on membership and income is provided to the Board at the monthly meeting. Good record keeping provides responsible accounting records for the organization.

If you have an interest in this chair and want to know more details, please contact: Deanne or Armando Ruiz at 1-626-331-8270, or if you know of another member who may be interested please let us know and we will contact them.

ON THE COVER

The cover art this month was painted by Nancy Shiershke. She will be greatly missed by MVAL members.

NEED COVER ART

PLEASE - send me artwork, doesn't have to be a fancy shot, just a decent shot with a phone camera, finished painting or sketchbook... I just NEED cover art!
Send to janunamaker@verizon.net
Thank you,

Joyce Nunamaker
Editor Art and The Artist

BOARD POSITION OPEN

Going once, Going Twice!!

Wouldn't you love to be the one to organize the MVAL Auction? You are able to connect with artists and request donations of their artwork. When the big day of the Auction comes, you can see the excitement and smiles from all the bidders as they collect original artwork. If this sounds like something of interest to you, please contact John Byram or Kate McDaniel (626 644-0006) for more information. The Auction is an integral part of raising money for the Scholarship Committee.

The purpose of the yearly Auction is to provide money to the Scholarship Committee.

- Monthly Meetings (Jan-June)
 - Ticket Sales
 - Collection of Donations
- Contact artists about donating artwork
- Writing articles for the newsletter, including photos of donated artwork, to promote Auction.
- Organize and bundle silent auction donations.
- Select paintings to place in Silent Auction.
- Store donations
- In addition, if the Auction will be online only:
 - Photograph all donated artwork
 - Work with MVAL webmaster in setting up Auction
 - Decide on starting bids
 - Notify winning bidders

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

MVAL Upcoming 2021 and 2022 Online Workshops:

MVAL 2022 Online Workshops - Mark your calendar and join us!

Dale Laitinen 3-day watercolor landscape - January 25, 27, & 29, 2022

Richard Scott 3-day watercolor workshop - March 24, 26, & 28, 2022

Linda Kemp 3-day watercolor "Negative Painting Obsession - Blossoms and Foliage" - May 31, June 1 & June 3, 2022

Janet Rogers 3-day watercolor workshop - July 5, 7 & 9, 2022

George Politis from Greece 3-day watercolor workshop - September 23, 24 & 25, 2022

Alison Watt 3-day watercolor workshop - October 24, 26, 28, 2022

Check on MVAL Art & Artist Newsletter for flyers and registration forms.

THURSDAYS IN PLEIN AIR

Locations are determined on a weekly basis as gathering in a location may not be allowed from week to week. Check the Facebook Page or contact Lynne Fearman to find current plans.

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!

DEC 9th - South Pasadena Library

on El Centro

DEC 16th - Memorial Park in Sierra Madre,

followed by Pizza and any food you'd like to share, an outdoor fest. (no gift exchange)

DEC 23th & 30th - Frank Bonelli Park

120 E Via Verde Dr., San Dimas

Paint Big! Think a 2 week project!

Bring lunch.

JAN 6th - THE BRAND LIBRARY

1601 W. MOUNTAIN ST. GLENDALE 91201

Take the 134 freeway to N. Pacific Ave. Right off freeway onto Pacific Ave north to Kenneth Rd. Left to Grandview Ave. Right to entrance straight ahead. Bring lunch

JAN 13th - LD MILL IN SAN MARINO

1120 Old Mill Rd. 10:00am. Go south on Lake Ave. in Pasadena. Continue onto Oak Knoll to the right. Continue past the Langham Hotel then left on Old Mill Rd. Destination on the left. It will not open until 10:00am.

JAN 20th - CHINA TOWN, LOS ANGELES

Pasadena freeway to Hill St. off ramp in Los Angeles. We will be in the main courtyard. Parking available off Broadway, and on College Wy., we will be eating lunch at a local restaurant. BRING CASH. (\$10 for lunch)

JAN 20th - RANCHO CUCAMONGA CENTRAL PARK

11200 Baseline Rd. Take 210 freeway east to exit 60, onto Milliken Ave. Turn right onto Milliken Ave. Turn right onto Central Park. Spectacular views of snow(?) on Mount Baldy, with wide open spaces. Bring lunch.

JAN 27th & FEB 3rd - MATER DELOROSA PASSIONIST RETREAT

Sierra Madre. 700 N. Sunnyside Ave, Take the 210 Freeway to Michillinda Ave. Take it north to Grand View Ave. Turn right then left at Sunnyside Ave. Continue to the entrance at the top of the street. Park anywhere as long as you don't block the fire lane, or continue to the top parking lot. Two week paint-out think big!

ARTIST NEWS

Joyce Nunamaker and **Fred McCall**, "*Windsong Canyon*"; will be playing music for the *Luminaria Walk* at **California Botanic Garden**

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA
909-635-8767

Friday, Dec. 10th and Friday, Dec. 17th - 6-9pm
(Luminaria Walk is also open on Saturdays Dec. 11 & 18 with other music.)

Buy tickets on line through the California Botanic Garden website - this event is selling out quickly!

OPEN STUDIO

Open Studio, Wednesdays 10am-2pm

Studio2310 hosts Open Studio Wednesdays, 10am-2pm. It's an opportunity to paint and associate with other MVAL members.

Bring your painting supplies and lunch and enjoy the camaraderie.

Coffee and cookies (usually homemade) are provided.

\$15 per individual visit or \$10 per visit when paying for the month in advance.

Please RSVP, markwood2310@gmail.com or text at, 626.825.0464.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mark Wood

Studio2310, 2310 Central Ave., Unit13, Duarte 91010

SHOWS TO SEE

Women Painters West - A Century of California Women Artists

November 13, 2021 - January 8, 2022

Brand Library & Art Center

1601 West Mountain Street

Glendale, CA 91201



Dale Laitinen Online Watercolor Workshop

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, January 25, 27 & 29, 2022



Shape-Shifting, Making the Invisible Visible

The first two days of this workshop will concentrate on discovering the underlying design elements in a chosen subjects that are the basis for powerful landscapes. Participants are encouraged to bring photo subject matter of rugged landscapes preferably something with rocks and cliffs, with either sea coast cliffs or Sierra mountain landscapes. Strong shadow patterns make the best for strong painting subjects.

The third day will work on landscape abstractions



Dale Laitinen Online Watercolor Workshop

This workshop is for beginner to intermediate. PC/Mac/Smartphone and internet access needed.

Dates: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, January 25, 27 & 29, 2022 10 am to 4:00pm daily with an hour for lunch.

Fee: \$325 MVAL Members /\$355 Non-Members.

A fee of \$100 or full amount must be submitted with registration. Remainder due on January 15.

No Refunds after January 15, 2022.

A supply list will be sent upon registration.

Intro to Zoom and Dropbox session will be held prior to the workshop.

Registration

(Check payable to Mid-Valley Arts League)



Name _____

Address _____

City Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Dale Laitinen Online Workshop,
Tue, Thur, & Sat, January 25, 27, & 29, 2022

Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____

Check one: MVAL Member Non Member

Mail to: MVAL c/o Carol Ling, 4715 Lasheart Dr., La Cañada, CA 91011

Questions: Carol_ling@sbcglobal.net/818.636.3770

Dale Laitinen

dalelaitinen.com

email: dale@dalelaitinen.com



Dale Laitinen has been painting for over forty years with thirty five of those in watercolor. He is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society, and Watercolor West. He is a graduate of Modesto Junior College and San Jose State University with a BA in Art with a painting concentration. He is a past juror of many National and regional exhibitions including Watercolor West, Kentucky Watercolor Society, Utah Watercolor Society, Watercolor Society of Oregon, Red River Watermedia Show, Magnum Opus and many others.

One of the signatures of a Laitinen painting is the long view with the natural forms of the topography being foremost. His works extend to the interaction between structures such as roads, dams, canals, powerhouses, and the natural landscape. In one of these paintings one might find a concrete dam that spans a river canyon, or a highway that cuts through desert sandstone, or a shadow of a bridge that crawls slowly across a red rock wall.

After college Dale spent eight years as an independent trucker hauling freight across country. In 1985 he turned to painting full-time.



Some of the periodicals he has been featured in, The Artist's Magazine, Watercolor Magic, Watercolor Magazine, and Drawingboard Magazine.

Laitinen's work has been featured in several books including The Splash Series, Painting with the White of your Paper, The Transparent Watercolor Wheel and more. An active workshop instructor, Dale has traveled widely in both the US and abroad.

