



February 2023 Newsletter

President's Message-Ginny Sparlin

Hi All,

Hope you are enjoying these warmer days as much as I am. Spring is coming, I'm a believer! I'm already buying seeds. We're getting our Calendar of events nailed down for this year, and hoping it's a hit! This month Deb Poster will be teaching us a beautiful way to decorate eggs, using dots. These are so pretty and just in time to use to decorate this, Easter.

Be sure to read your newsletter so you'll know what is coming up each month, and please be sure to let us know what you like and are interested in learning. We're all volunteers here and we try to come up with fun and interesting projects, but it would really help to have your input, and suggestions.



Above is a picture of the tulip I'll be teaching at our March Monday evening meeting. It's on an 11" X 14" piece of 140lb. cold pressed watercolor paper. Bring your regular Water media supplies: Water container(s), brushes, paper towels, etc.

You'll also need a fine or extra fine point sharpie pen in BROWN, not black. Bring your watercolor pallet. I will bring a couple watercolor pallets plus some extra paints, too. I'll be sending the line drawing closer to March.

I can also bring extra paper.

If you have questions call me at 303-693-0771

I'd also like to take this opportunity to say "Thank you" to everyone on the board for remaining on the board and helping keep this little paint club afloat another year. You are the BEST!

Looking forward to seeing you at the meetings,

Ginny Sparlin, Pres.

Program Report-Deb Poster

FEB. 20, 2023 Garden Plaza 6pm ZOOM MIGHT be available, we encourage you to join us in person!! You will have greater success for working on an egg!
DOTTED GOOSE EGG PROJECT



Pre-painted goose egg, with spray on black primer, matte/flat finish \$5.00. I have 28 eggs available. Some of you may have already gotten your egg
Bring bottled acrylic paints in colors of your choice plus white - I like using the colors of the rainbow and sometimes I use the light and the medium shades of each color. FYI - dark purple, dark blue and deep burgundy don't work as well on the black. I also like several shades of one- or two-color families that go together.

Tools: Blue handled dotters are optional; I don't use them unless that's what you have. The balls don't work well on the curved surface of the egg

Plastic well type palette (10 wells), or 2 - 3 of the 6 wells palettes.

2 small water cups, one with a folded paper towel inside - I use yogurt tubs
extra paper towels

Pencil with un-used eraser - for dotting

My tool set - if you need this = 13 pieces @ \$8.00 - notice I wrap tape around the small clear one as it's easier to see.

A few cotton swabs for cleaning up boo-boos

I also use a scraper/craft knife to clean up boo-boos sometimes - optional

Along with the egg you will get a bamboo skewer to put the egg onto for easy handling and to set aside to dry when you need a break painting. The challenge will be where to put the skewer with the egg on it while it dries. I will bring a few tall tubs with kitty litter in them. That will hold the skewer upright.

For those of you have done dotting on a flat surface the challenge is keeping the rows of dots going straight up and down the egg. IF you have a chalk pencil and/or charcoal pencil that is water soluble bring them.

Our March 20 project will be offered by Ginny. It will be a spring flower in watercolor

Our April 17 project will be offered by Andrene. It's a mixed media flower pot combining painting and simple decoupage.

Our May 15 project will be UFO - bring any unfinished project to work on for an evening of painting and visiting!

This summer we offer 3 months; Saturdays - June 17, July 15 and Aug 19, of Summer Paint Parties!! Mark your calendars!! We are having fun designing and playing with techniques and products. As we finish developing some great, fun art pieces we'll pass along info on items you will need to supply.

Sunshine Report- Karon Sorensen

We want to wish all members Happy Valentine's Day! We have no February birthdays.



Hospitality Report-Andrene Schmelzer

I would like to thank Ginny Sparling for doing hospitality in January in my absence and also for bringing treats. Also, thanks to Marilyn Corners for bringing treats.

For the February meeting we have Verlene Siska bring something savory and Andrene Schmelzer signed up for sweets.

Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes

Artful Ties..... If you haven't already joined Artful Ties on Facebook, you can open Facebook and in the search box type in Artful Ties if the link doesn't work for you. There are 4 questions you need to answer for us so we can approve you to join the group. Please do not use the "Invite" button because the questions won't appear to artists wanting to join. The group is growing and you can see classes and business posts of interest among other things.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/568162918041487>

Decorative Painters Foundation... You can also search for the Decorative Painters Foundation and join too if this link isn't working for you.

<https://www.facebook.com/decorativepaintersfoundation>

Colorado Decorative Artists... As most of you know High Plains and Pikes Peak Chapters are dissolving and creating a new group. You can view a temporary web page to stay informed.

<http://coloradodecorativeartists.org/>

Painting tip cleaning stencils... Tracy Moreau

We have all left a stencil too long before attempting to clean it up... and have felt they were a lost cause. But they are almost always salvageable... with a few little tricks.

Tip 1: never use HOT water. This can cause the Mylar or plastic to buckle or stretch. Rendering the stencil useless.

Tip 2: kitchen sponges (the ones with a soft scrubby side) are perfect for cleaning stencils. Just take your time and take care with detailed or elaborate stencils. Don't want to bend those little bits.

Tip 3: I use a large piece of plate glass or a ceramic tile to lay the stencils on (in the sink) the stencils will stick when wet and makes it easy to clean without damaging the stencil.

Cleaners: My faves....

DecoArt Brush Magic is an awesome stencil/brush/jewelry cleaner... I attach a spray pump to the bottle to spray the stencil (saves brush cleaner and works very well) let it sit for a minute or two and then lay it on a flat solid surface and gently scrub with a kitchen sponge. Pat dry.

Gel hand sanitizer... awesome for classes and travel...inexpensive and very effective on fresh paint. Rub some into the stencil and let sit for about 30 seconds. Lay flat on a solid surface and gently scrub with a kitchen sponge. Rinse with cool water. Pat dry.

Great for emergency brush cleaning too (just don't use it too often)

Rubbing alcohol... great in a pinch and cheap like borschtthis is very very effective to remove fresh, dry or old paint. I spray it onto the stencil and let it sit for just a few seconds. Lay it on a flat solid surface and then scrub gently with a kitchen sponge

Awesome:

Great stuff, works quite wellwhen you can find it... not readily available in Canada.

<https://tracymoreau.net/>

Marco Antonio Aguilar... I'm sure I have shared Marco's website with you before, but I am going to again. <grin> Marco is a very talented artist and his classes are very popular. Take a look at his website when you have time to see his work. Marco teaches at conventions and online.

<https://marcoart.com/>

Pacific Decorative Painters Expo... There is a new convention/expo starting up in the Northwest. By the time you read this registration should be open so you can at least see the classes offered.

<https://www.pacificdpexpo.com/>

Artroom2Create... Lots of classes offered including an online convention. Here is the May Retreat 2023 Class catalog. Paula Leopold and Wendy Goldberg are teaching at this online event!

<https://www.artroom2create.com/article-a/261.htm>

Depalma's Custom Woodcrafts... This is a link to some of their wood for sale for the webinars.

<https://depalmascustomwoodcrafts.com/2023-webinar-surfaces/>

<https://www.artroom2create.com/default.asp>

MIXING MAGIC: GREEN Peggy Harris... Start with yellow.

Add a touch of blue. Adjust with more yellow or more blue.

If you wish to dull your green color, add a speck of red. The complement of any color (the color directly across the color wheel) always dulls it!

To make a green tint (a lighter green hue such as lime sherbet), add green to white.

<https://peggyharris.com/>

Mary Jo Tuttle... Here is a website for Mary Jo Tuttle designs. You may remember Mary Jo used to design for Artists Club.

<https://www.tuttlestouches.com/>

Painting Tip: Tracy Moreau... I think we all have that ONE medium or product that never seems to work for us, and a friend that says " Oh It NEVER Fails for me!" Does any of this sound familiar? Let me guess.... CRACKLE MEDIUMS!! I LOVE crackle mediums! and NONE of them fail for me.... because I know the secrets.

DECO ART AMERICANA WEATHERED WOOD is the most commonly used among us decorative painters, so let's start with that.

1. Generous EVEN coat of the medium on a Raw, Stained or Painted surface. (The thicker it is the bigger the Cracks...but there is such thing as too much)
2. Let it dry until it's Just dry (even a little tacky is fine) But not over night! 2.or 3 hrs. is usually enough.
3. Apply the top coat of paint. and this is the fun part. Use a sponge, a brush, or a roller, but whatever you use... Be generous. Just get it on and don't go over where you have already been. (I

Love sponges for this part, because it is easy to keep the top coat uniform.) The Cracks will begin to appear immediately. As it continues to dry, the more pronounced the cracks will become
4. LEAVE IT ALONE! Give the crackle 24 hrs. to dry fully before you do anything over it. Otherwise your pretty paint work over top. will crack too. (that's fine if it's what you want, but nearly impossible to get it uniform)

Note: If you use a Sponge or a roller , you will get a crazed effect (the cracks run in all directions) If you use a brush, the cracks follow the direction of the brush strokes.

TIP: DON'T try to force dry crackle medium... it will do weird things and you may not like it...Just let it air dry for the best results.

If Crackle is something you only use once in a while...Check your jar from time to time , for Crystals in the bottom of the jar.. if you find them, the medium is likely too old and will be unreliable at best.

<https://tracymoreau.net/>

Elisabetta De Maria... I have probably shared this website before, but certainly worth another look at her beautiful work.

<https://www.elisabettademariaartist.com/>

Etched... if you are looking for another surface to paint on check this out. The "paper" is made of stone.

<https://etchedstonepaper.com/>

I hope I see you at the next meeting!

Melinda

Newsletter Compiler-Verlene Siska

<https://rockymountainhiartists.com>