

TEAM – GLR Newsletter

Volume 1 February 2012

Hello Everyone! Happy 2012!

First off, let me apologize for the newsletter being late.....I will do my best to get the next newsletters out on a timely basis! I have just gotten the info – so once I have it all set up (contact lists created, and newsletter format) it will be much easier to achieve! Thank You for your patience! PLEASE send submissions (articles, classes you're teaching, ANY pertinent info) to me ASAP for inclusion in the next newsletter – which should be out before the Spring meeting! Thank you to Debbie Nees for writing a couple articles for me to use!! I surely appreciate it!!

Newsletter Editor, Nancy Van Curen nvancuren@frontier.com



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are moving into a new year and hopefully things will be much better this year. Once again you have chosen to give me the honor of being your president for the next three years. I sincerely want to thank all of you for your prayers and support these last two years. The treatments stopped in September and I am currently in remission and enjoying my new lease on life. Unfortunately I had to close my studio and frame shop. But as I am a firm believer that "God only closes one door to open another" so we will see what door No. 2 has in store. Great Lakes Region is continuing to offer many new adventures and greeting new members. I hope all of you will be able to join us this year for our Spring or Fall meeting.

President, Mandy Steele

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of officers was held for President and Vice President. After ballots were sent out by Secretary Carol Hoffman and request for nominations from the floor, Mandy Steele and Georgia Dangel were re-elected to their respective offices. They will serve a three year term.

DUES ARE DUE

Membership dues are due by January 31, 2012. Due to the delay in this newsletter, dues will not be considered delinquent until February 28 in order to take advantage of the classes at the spring meeting. Please mail your check for \$15 made out to Great Lakes Region to Sulayne Brooks, Treasurer 69 Mahlon Street, Shinnston, WV 26431.

Members who paid their dues to date are: Doni Adam, Sulayne Brooks, Carol Coen, Diane Barker, Georgia Dangel, Nancy Glasscock, Kitty Gorrell, Aileen Grattan, Carol Hoffman, Norma Kessler, Laurel Klein, Mary Lauck, Mary Moore, Marlene Moose, Debrorah Nees, Susan Newsom, Cynthia Owens, Lou Ann Reckley, Joan Schneider, Mandy Steele, Nancy Van Curen, Linda VanDyke, and Donna Wells

WELCOME NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I especially want to thank Nancy Van Curen for volunteering to be the newsletter editor. It has been a challenge for me to create and send out information this past two years. So with Nancy's help hopefully we will do better in the future. BUT it requires getting information from the membership. Please send class information, worthy art articles and information concerning TEAM and Great Lakes Region. You can email Nancy at nvancuren@frontier.com. Mandy

MEMBER BENEFIT FUND

Several years ago we created a fund from which we could send monetary gifts to members who have had serious illness or deaths in their families. If you know of any of our members who would qualify, please let Mandy know so that we can assist our art families.

EMAIL CHANGE:

Please note that Mandy has changed her email address to msteele6453@ma.rr.com.

SPRING MEETING:

The spring meeting for GLR will be held on May 11 & 12 at Kitty Gorrell's studio. Kitty will be teaching on Friday in Oils. The class project will be announced at a later date. On Saturday, Mandy will teach a beginner project in Color Pencils. It was voted at the Fall meeting that GLR would pay for these classes. **To be eligible for this free class, dues must be paid by the February 28 deadline.** Anyone who has not paid dues by the deadline will be charged \$50.00 per day. Complete details, class supply list and project descriptions will be provided at a later date. Motel information, directions to Kitty's house will be sent out with class registration. Hopefully many of you will be able to join us. Class size is limited so don't hesitate to let Kitty know you are planning to attend by April 1.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Currently the balance in our checking account is \$2980.72.

ART QUEST

Mark your Calendars! April 22-27th, 2012 Four Days of art instruction from the teachers of your choice! (Kitty Gorrell, Mark Polomchak, Carol Hoffman, Dorothy Dent, Brenda Harris, & Robert Warren). Cherokee NC is an awesome place, and I understand this new facility is outstanding! Visit <http://www.kittygorrell.com/artquest.php> for more information, or contact Kitty at 304-684-7975 for more info or registration!! Still a few spots available!

TEAM WEBSITE

Great Lakes Region is part of a much larger organization known as TEAM that once was the Bill Alexander certified instructors. TEAM has survived to keep the dream that Bill Alexander had for the art world. You can search the Teachers and Educators of Art Materials (TEAM) website to see how this organization reaches artists all across the country. There are free instructional materials on the site that only paid members can access. If you would like to access these packets, please contact Mandy and she will give you the password if you are a member in good standing. The site also lists teachers, classes and seminars for beginners to advanced painters. The website address is www.artteachers.org.

Winter Challenges

by
Deborah Kay Nees

I don't know about you all but the economy has "hit me in the gut" over the past few years. My regular students are in the same boat as me and classes have dwindled. I'll schedule a class or workshop only to have it cancel for lack of participation (or weather). You know the drill. We all know this is a "numbers game" and that hasn't changed in good economy or bad.

You are disappointed but more than that you have set aside this time. You planned your project to teach well (maybe even practiced it ahead of time with a "guinea pig" child, spouse, un-painting friend or two). You have your patterns, lesson plan written out with brushes to use, colors and combinations and the list goes on. This prep time may be gone (could make setting up for next class easier) but the time devoted to the class itself can be utilized in many art-related ways.

Instead of gripping---who doesn't, really, be honest-----why don't we use this time to perfect a new technique, decide to enter a show with an award-winning painting, try a new medium, challenge ourselves with a variety of things. That four to eight hours can be put to good use in personal painting endeavors. Let's use them for just that.

In a recent blog on my web page.....www.DebbieNees.com, click on "Blog"----I mentioned a few tricks I've tried for snow paintings in watercolor. I won't repeat them here but you all might try some of these.

A challenge I've put forth for myself this year is painting in the style of Masters of Western Art (one a month). This is an upcoming challenge for my local watercolor society for our April meeting where all are asked to bring in one painting, in watercolor, and state the pitfalls and successes of trying to copy or get into another artist's head.

A sooner challenge for February is to paint a shadow painting----meeting is Ground Hog's Day----without using any tube blacks or grays. Many of us rarely use tube black anyway----I don't in any medium I use.

Anyway, try some of these suggestions. If enough can and do paint some of the above maybe we can have "Show and Tell" at our spring meeting. Happy painting, y'all!

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