



February 2015

February OPS Meeting to Feature Tips from Rick McClure on Selecting Frames Plus an Opportunity to Purchase Great Frames at a Great Price

Finishing a painting may sometimes seem like the easy part when you get ready to select just the right frame that will enhance your artwork rather than overpowering it. What goes around a painting is almost as important as the painting itself, and since frames today are available in thousands of styles, the choices are endless.

Not to worry! Rick McClure, an award-winning plein air painter and teacher, will provide us with a few tips and hints on how to select a frame that will put your artwork in the best possible light rather than diminishing your work.



And that's not all! JMJ Frames is bringing a truckload of quality wood frames in a variety of colors and moldings from which to select for your artwork. His frames are beautiful and competitively priced so this is a great opportunity to stock up on quality frames to enhance your paintings.

Please note the February meeting will be held in the studio of Dennis Parker which is located at 12120 Warwick Drive in Oklahoma City. Please see map on page 8 of this newsletter.

Message from OPS President Donna Branson

Dear OPS Members,

Hopefully, everyone is painting, painting, painting in preparation for our March OPS show. Linda, our show chair, is counting on everyone participating in the show.

We had an outstanding pastel demonstration for our January meeting by Marie Kash Weitzheimer. Did you feel compelled to try your hand at painting birds? I did, but mine sure didn't look like Marie's and she made it look so easy!!

This month we have a very different kind of meeting, and we'll be meeting at Dennis Parker's studio. We will have an opportunity to hear Rick McClure tell us about how he chooses frames to best enhance his paintings, and talk about his philosophy regarding framing when he is judging a show. JMJ will have their frames available for anyone wishing to purchase one or more frames. You are welcome to bring your paintings-in-progress with you as you choose your frame. Of course, even if you do not wish to purchase frames, the program will be most informative and interesting.

In the February/March 2015 issue of Plein Air Magazine, I was struck by the headline of the article on Carolyn Anderson, "Interpret Visual Information, Don't Repeat It." My first thought was of Clive Tyler who has said to us so many times, "create, don't duplicate." The article continued by making the point that as artists we must be selective in what to include. Anderson said that she encourages students to consider whether or not they need to include all of the information in front of them. In terms of edges, she recommended that students think about what they need to define a form or create a shape. She continued, what/where are the important edges, what kind of edges are they, what value are the shapes that meet at the edge, and what is the color temperature at that point of transition? I found these comments so helpful, that I thought I'd share them with you, in case that you might also find them valuable.

See you Monday, February 9th, 6:30 p.m. at Dennis Parker's studio!

Donna

Donna Branson, PhD
President, Oklahoma Pastel Society





Spotlight on OPS Member Linda Battles

How long have you worked in pastel?

I have been working in pastels about 20 years.

What drew you to that medium? Why do you prefer to work in pastels? What other mediums do you work in?

I fell in love with pastels when I purchased a small set of Grumbacher Pastels for an art class. I don't think you can find that brand anymore. Anyway I fell in love with how they feel when you put them on the paper. I've dabbled in oils in the past, but I don't currently work in any other medium. I also enjoy drawing.

Have you always pursued painting or is this something that came about more recently?

I've always been interested in art. My mother tells a story that before I could read I found a matchbook cover that said "Draw Me." After telling me what it said, I drew the cartoon to her amazement. As a young girl I shared a sketch book with my father who also liked to draw and he encouraged me. When I was growing up, I wanted to be a commercial artist, however life got in the way. I dabbled in art while my kids were growing up, but I did not start painting seriously until my children were grown.

Do you work on only one painting at a time or do you have several projects going at the same time?

I usually work on one painting at a time, but I might set one aside for a long while and then go back to it.

What is your favorite subject matter to paint? What kinds of experiences trigger ideas for your paintings?

I'm inspired by the beauty God puts before us in all kinds of ways. I don't stick with just one subject, I paint whatever inspires me at the time. I do enjoy painting boats, animals, landscapes and flowers.

Tell us a little about your job at Kimray.

I just celebrated my second year at Kimray. I'm the Graphic Designer at Kimray which manufactures Oil & Gas Control Valves. I get to do a lot of fun designs like trade show booths and brochures, logo design and magazine ads just to name a few. Prior to working at Kimray, I worked 15 years for the Martial Arts Industry Association owned by Century Martial Arts. I worked as Graphic Designer and did the creative direction



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for MASUCCESS, a monthly trade magazine, as well as designing a variety of other things like packaging, t-shirts, logos and product designs and even email spam.

Are you originally from Oklahoma City?

I was born in Oklahoma City and have always lived here. I currently live just south of the Oklahoma City in Moore, Oklahoma.

Anything else you would like to share? What is something that very few know about you?

Graphic design is my second career, in my first career I worked as a bookkeeper. When my last child was almost grown, I started taking art classes at the local community college for fun. The professor told me I could make a living doing art, so I signed up fulfilling my childhood dream of being a commercial artist and I've been having fun every since!

What is your favorite artist — who inspires you?

I don't think I have just one favorite artist, I'm so inspired by all my fellow artist in the pastel society I just love seeing their latest work. In addition, I love to look at the artwork of artists like Desmond O'Hagan, Clive Tyler, Dale Martin, Marie Weltzheimer, Lorenzo Chavez, Ted Majka... and dozens more.

Are you reading any good pastel or art books right now and, if so, what is the title and the artist and what specifically do you like about the book?

I can't say I read a lot of art books, I mostly look at the photos. However, I recently ordered the *Urban Sketcher* and I'm planning to read it, on the advice of a friend. :))

Family history — spouse's name and occupation, children, grandchildren, pets, etc.?

I lost my husband, Rudy, six years ago. He was a huge supporter of my art and would haul me and my art around to local outdoor art festivals. He was a talented carpenter and worked in the remodel business. I'm blessed to have three grown children — two boys and one girl, nine grandchildren and one great grandchild! I have two cats, one's a Doll Face Persian who I swear twirls her hair till it mats up, and the other is a Snow Shoe Siamese mix.

What do you do for relaxation other than paint?

I enjoy growing flowers and have a water garden in my back yard, I'm not sure I would always call this hobby relaxing. I enjoy bike riding in the warm weather, dancing, and occasionally kayaking.

Marie Kash Weltzheimer's January Demo

Although Marie has most recently been painting mostly in oils, no one in attendance at the January OPS meeting could tell that she hadn't been working in pastels for a while. Taking up her pastels and creating a beautiful painting was no problem at all for her as is evidenced by these photos from the demo.

Prior to the demo, she prepared an underpainting with watercolors. Then during the demo she skillfully applied the pastel to create a wonderful picture of a female cardinal. Her reference photo was taken right in her own back yard!



Marie diversifies her artistic offerings with magnets, pillows and tree ornaments so there's something for every budget.



In preparation for her demo, Marie created these beautiful bird paintings in pastel with watercolor underpainting.

Upcoming Events

Oklahoma Pastel Society Spring Show & Sale, March 14 – April 18, Masters House Art and Frame, 223 South Broadway, Moore. Bring entry form, fee and artwork on Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. – noon or to the OPS monthly meeting on Monday, March 9th, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Will Rogers Garden Center. Artwork must be picked up on Saturday, April 18, 10:00 a.m. to noon. See next page for the show flyer with additional information.

4th Annual Plein Air Convention and Expo; April 13-17, 2015, Monterey, CA. This year there will be tracks for oil, pastel and water media. Call 561-655-8778 or go to [Plein-airconvention.com](http://pleinairconvention.com).

Debbie Kaspari will teach a 2-hour botanical pastel/graphite workshop at the Myriad on Saturday, February 21,

from 1 to 3 pm. Cost is \$20 for Myriad Members, \$25 for non-members. Here's a link: <http://oklahomacitybotanicalgardens.com/events/botanical-drawing-in-pencil-and-pastel/>

Matt Atkinson will demo at the Summer Wine Gallery, Sun, 1-4:00pm, Feb 15th.

The Fred Jones Museum of Art will have a retrospective of the career of Oscar Brousse Jacobson. Opening lecture is Feb 26, 7 pm, Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium.

Donna Branson will give a pastel landscape demonstration at the Mid-Del Art Guild's March meeting, Monday, March 2, 2015, 7:00 pm, Tom Steed Auditorium, Rose State College.

Call for Entries

Pastel Society of the West Coast Online Juried Exhibition; March 4, 2015 due date; download prospectus and entry form from onlinejuriedshows.com.

The **Northwest Pastel Society** is holding its 29th Annual International Open Exhibition. May 9-June 20, 2015. Entry deadline is March 7; digital entries only; prospectus is available at OnlineJuriedShows.com.

Upcoming OPS Meetings

We have some outstanding artists lined up to finish our the season! March 9th will be Debby Kaspari, Patricia Bradley will demo on April 13 and Mike Wimmer will be our demo artist on May 11. You won't want to miss any of these amazing and gifted artists, so be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend.

*Thanks to Jan Hutchinson & Linda Battles
for providing snacks for our February meeting.
We need snack providers for our March thru May 2015 meetings
so let Donna or Jimi know if you're interested.*

*See you on Monday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.
at the studio of Dennis Parker, 12120 Warwick Drive, Oklahoma City!*

Spring

2015

ART Show & Sale

Oklahoma Pastel Society

Show Dates

Artist Reception, & Awards

Sat. March 14th, 2pm

Show ends: April 18th

Please invite family and friends, co-workers...

Receiving Art

Bring Entry Form - Fee - Art

Saturday March 7th 10 am to Noon

Masters House Art and Frame

Monday March 9th 6:30pm - 8:30pm at

OPS regular monthly meeting

Show Closes

Pickup Art

Saturday April 18th, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Masters House Art and Frame

Place

Masters House Art and Frame

223 S. Broadway Moore, Okla.(405) 37-3131

www.MastersHouse.com

Framing Discount

Masters House Art and Frame is offering a **15% discount** on art framed for the show.

www.MastersHouse.com (405) 237-3131

Entry Fee

\$30 for up to three paintings.

20% Commission on sales for the Gallery.

(New members are welcome, membership can be purchased or renewed at time of entry)

Prizes & Awards

Categories

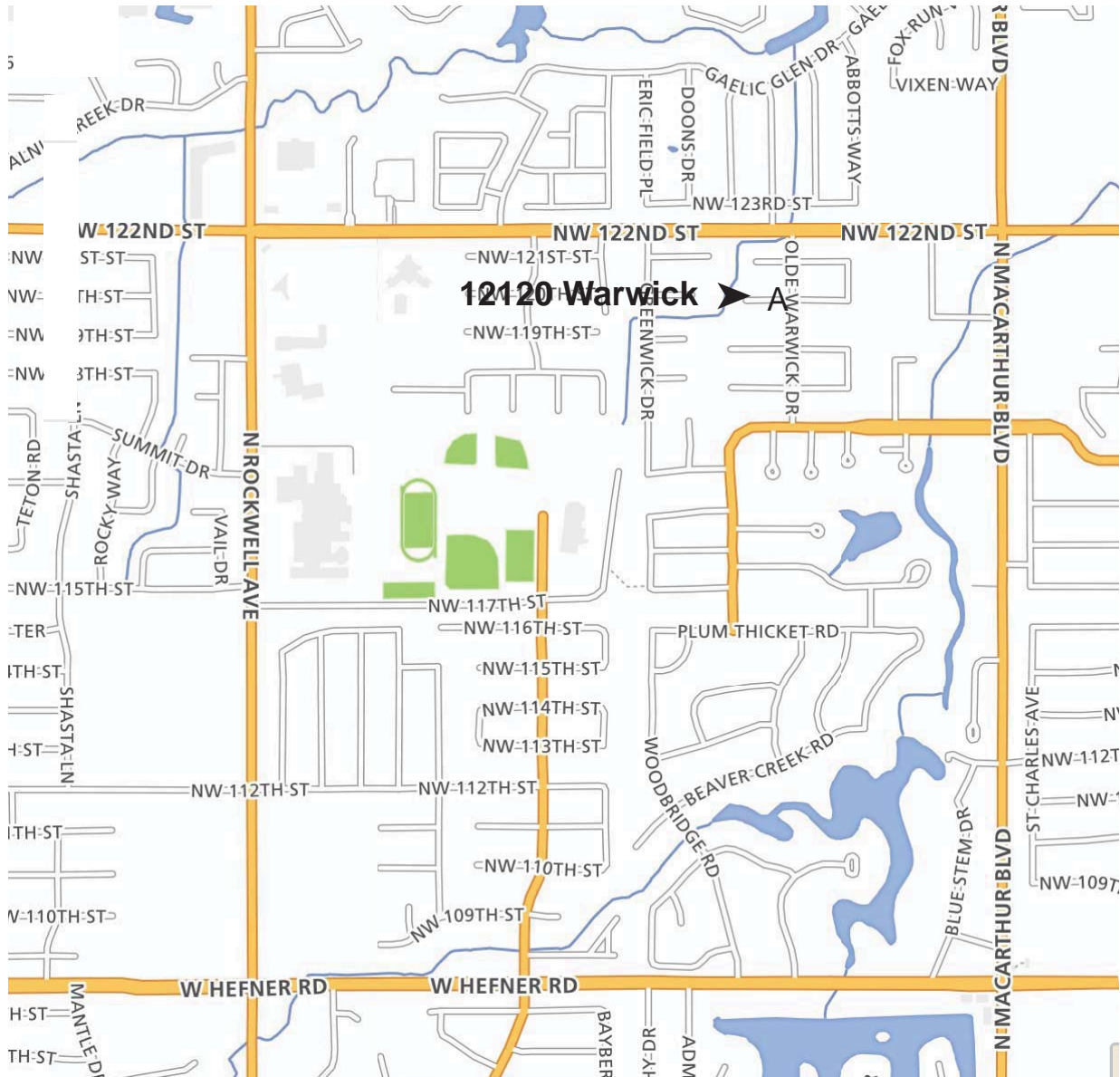
Landscape, Portrait/Figure

Animal, Still Life, Floral, and

Non-Representational / Abstract

***Work previously shown in a OPS show is ineligible.*





**Dennis Parker Art Studio
12120 Warwick
Oklahoma City, OK**

If you get lost, call 514-6817 for directions.