



Learn How to Make Your Own Surfaces at the January 2017 OPS Meeting

Our January 9th meeting should be an exciting hands-on meeting exploring pastel grounds which the artist might apply to various substrates. It will be conducted by Jan Hutchinson, a well known local pastel artist, and Gary Sharp, a new pastelist, with a background in occupational health.

We will be preparing a surface on a piece of gator board which the member can take home and experiment with. In addition, various surfaces will be available for you to try and see how they respond to your painting. Such surfaces will include: different grades of pumice, aluminum oxide, marble dust, commercial products, along with many others.

Included will be instructions on preparation of the ground, its application; along with a nice reference handout which will be distributed.

This will be a great opportunity for hands on experimenting with these various grounds and seeing how they perform for you. One I am sure you would not want to miss. Just bring yourself, all supplies will be furnished.

***Please note the OPS meeting will be held
at Dennis Parker's Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive!***

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Message from OPS President Lindel Hutson

We start the a new year with something new. OPS members Jan Hutchinson and Gary Sharp will work with you in our first-ever “Make and Take” session on preparing surfaces for painting pastels. This will provide the opportunity to experiment with various grounds on Gator Board.

For this Monday’s meeting, all you need to bring is yourself and some creative ideas. Jan and Gary will bring boards, brushes, rollers and ground materials. Various surfaces will be available for you to try and see how they respond to your painting. Such surfaces include different grades of pumice, aluminum oxide, marble dust and commercial products.

It should be a fun and educational evening. And you’ll be taking home new surfaces to use.

There is an interesting article on preparing painting surfaces in the latest issue of the Pastel Journal. The story by artist Tom Christopher is called “Scratching the Surface” and explores adding texture to your pastels in the underpainting stage. He was able to depict amazing landscape elements using drips of acrylic paint onto his prepared surface. Take a look; there are some excellent ideas in the article.

Looking down the road, we have two of our favorite artists returning. Mitsuno Reedy returns for a portrait demonstration at the February 13 meeting. And for the March 13 meeting, Clive Tyler will paint a landscape for us. Clive will hold an OPS workshop March 11-12.

The organization’s primary source of income is the dues you pay. So if you haven’t paid, please do. That’s so we can continue providing these meeting demonstrations and the workshops from visiting artists.

Remember the meetings are now being held at Dennis Parker’s art studio at 122nd and MacArthur in Oklahoma City, starting at 6:30 pm.



***See you on Monday, January 9th , 6:30 p.m.
at Dennis Parker’s Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive, Oklahoma City!***



Spotlight on OPS Member Jimi Layman

I was born in Oklahoma City but we eventually settled in Chickasha where I grew up. I graduated from the liberal arts college, which at that time was called Oklahoma College for Women, but is now known as the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. After graduation, I moved to Oklahoma City to make my fortune. I'm still working on that goal!

I became interested in art when I was in the 4th grade. Our teacher was reading from *The Adventures of Dr. Doolittle* which included illustrations of the characters. As part of the lesson, she had us copy some of the drawings. Mine certainly wouldn't have won any awards but it was such fun that I wanted to do more. By the time I was in junior high, I was copying drawings out of the *How to Draw* books. My senior year in high school I took an art class which spurred even more interest in art.

My first two years in college, I took several art classes and enjoyed them tremendously but decided it would be better to concentrate on business classes. Earning a living after graduation seemed a good idea! I always promised myself I would continue with art. However, time got away from me and it was many years before that actually happened.

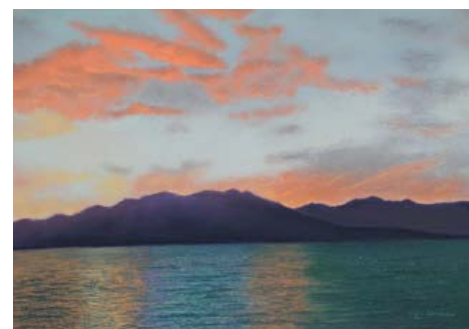
After working in the business world for several years, I decided to go back to school to pursue a degree in advertising design from Central State University in Edmond which led to a career that included creating brochures and newsletters as well as meeting and conference planning for the Oklahoma Press Association initially and then the Oklahoma Municipal League where I served for 29 years as the conference director and newsletter editor.

I retired from the Oklahoma Municipal League three years ago and working part-time for Oklahoma Emergency Management where I assist with OEM's annual conference as well as creating brochures as needed.

I got back into art when I discovered the art class at Francis Tuttle and teacher Gary Lennon who has a way of drawing out any small talent that students might have. Initially I was working in graphite but Gary thought pastels would be a good medium for me and he proved to be right.

Although I am currently working primarily in oils, pastels are still my favorite medium to work with. My favorite subjects to paint are still lifes and landscapes. My yearly trips to Lake Tahoe have provided a great deal of resource material from which to work.

Something that not many people know about me is that I worked part-time as a bartender for Gaslight Dinner Theater when I was in school at CSU. I later worked weekends as a Pinkerton security guard for several years where I was assigned to the security control room at what was then Liberty Bank.



Tips from November Demo Artist Jude Tolar

I paint many of my floral pastels as portraits. I look at a flower (or flowers) as an individual character with a story to tell. Here are some tips I use for painting a floral portrait. These are mainly

1. If possible, paint from life. This can be done en plein air (outdoors) or indoors.
2. Study your model(s). Walk all around, try different heights/vantage points. I often paint at eye level, which sometimes means sitting on the ground.
3. Find your model's story. Is it color? Light? Posture/gesture? Its beauty? Shape? Other?
4. Consider the light. For en plein air painting, morning or late-afternoon light is best. Mid-day sun flattens everything. This matters more on sunny days, of course. But I prefer to paint on sunny days. For indoor painting, use a strong light or lights to illuminate your model.
5. Get very close to your model. You can't see as well if your subject is more than 3 feet or so away.
6. Use a camera to frame your model and to try different compositions. Use the best photo to help you initially place your subject on the paper/board.
7. After sketching in your subject, refer mostly to your live model rather than to your photo.
8. Keep it simple, Part I: Zoom in. It's hard to paint a portrait in the context of a crowd.
9. Keep it simple, Part II: Fill your page. A portrait needs visual impact.
10. Keep it simple, Part III: Minimize\ background details, unless they are part of the story. See examples to the right.



*The shadows were part of the story.
Clematis Light and Shadows 14x11"*



*I wanted nothing to compete with the
complexity, light and gesture.
Spring Iris Glow 14x11"*

Upcoming Events & Workshops

IAPS 2017 Convention: Registration for the 2017 IAPS Convention in Albuquerque opens on October 11. For a preview of the convention, go to http://www.iapspastel.org/convention17_preview.php.

Marla Baggetta – PSA, IAPS, MC

June 9, 2017 – “Navigating Your Trouble Zones”
June 10, 2017 – “Poems Not Novels”
Albuquerque, New Mexico. Contact IAPS for information.

Doug Dawson – PSA, Master Pastelist, PSA Hall of Fame

June 10, 2017 – “Working with Color Thumbnails,”
Albuquerque, New Mexico. Contact Susan Webster,
susanwebster@verizon.net.
August 7-12, 2017, Cloudcroft, New Mexico. Contact Jan Rasch, 575/491-7208.

Jan Evenhus – PSA-MP, NPS-DP, IAPS-MC, PSWC

May 2017, St. Louis, Missouri; June 2017, Albuquerque,

New Mexico; October 2017, Dallas, Texas – “The Beauty of Perfection”

Albert Handel

March 12-18, 2017, Sedona, Arizona
April 24-28, 2017, Bastrop, Texas
June 6-11, 2017, IAPS, Albuquerque, New Mexico
For information, call 505/983-8373, alberthandel@msn.com or www.alberthandel.com.

Barbara Jaenicke, PSA, IAPS/MC, AIS, OPA

June 8-11, 2017, IAPS, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Demos – June 8 & 9; Workshop – June 11

Mike Mahon – PSA, PAPNM, PSNM, APA

February 16-19, 2017, Canadian, Texas (Portrait)
March 30–April 1, Weatherford, Texas (Portrait)
For information, call 505/795-4639, www.mmahon.com

Call for Entries

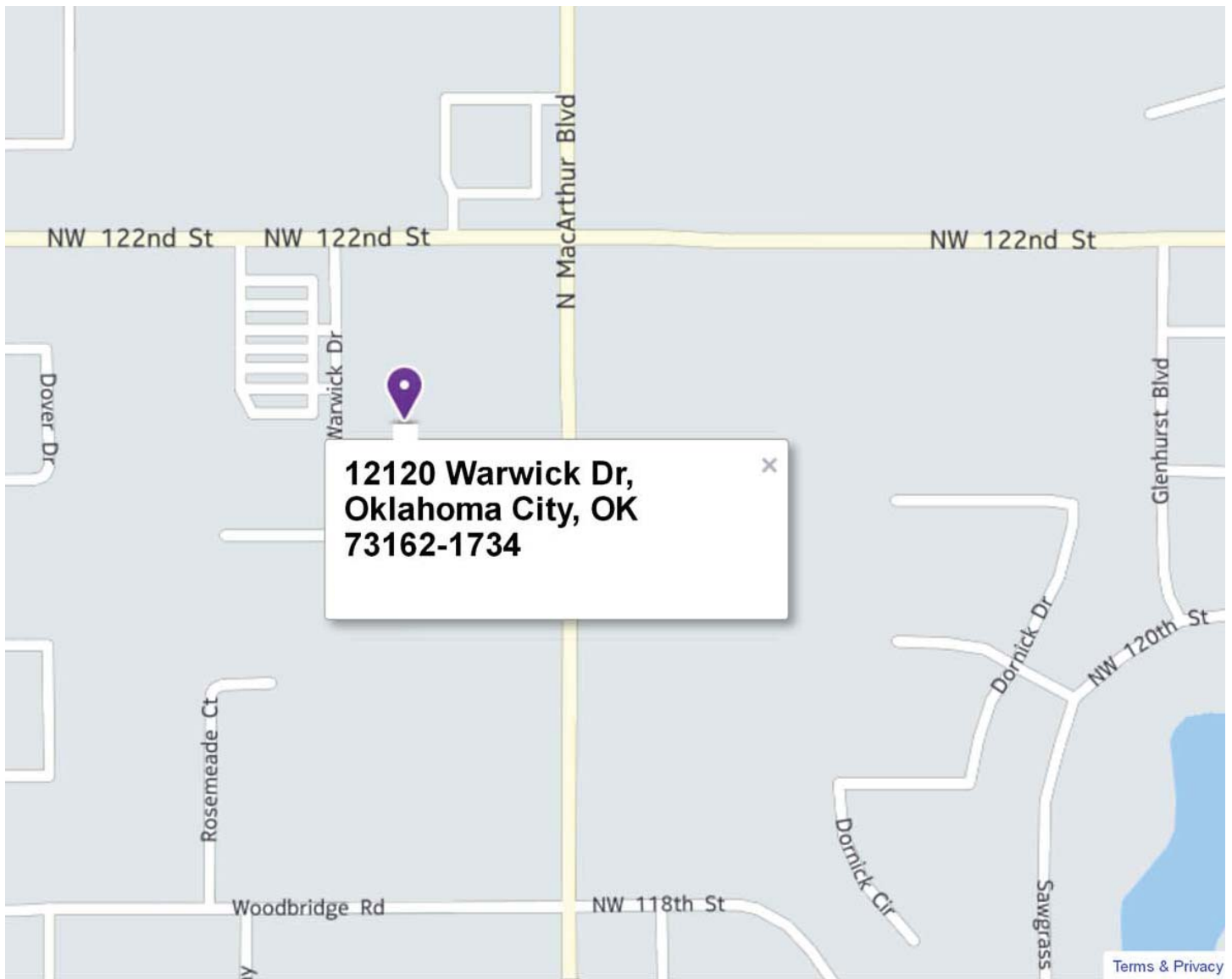
This year the Arizona Pastel Artists will be hosting its first National Open Juried Pastel Show in Sedona, Arizona. This location has high tourist traffic which often results in numerous sales, especially during the Spring Break in April. Art collectors come to make

multiple purchases. The Sedona Arts Center will also be hosting a Pastel Workshop with Kim Lordier, who will be the awards judge for the event. Jurists will be Terri Ford and Lorenzo Chavez. There will be over \$5,000 in award prizes with \$1,000 for Best in Show.



*Thanks to Ronda Zenker & Bob & Rosanna Kaiser
for providing refreshments for our January meeting.
We need volunteers to provide refreshments for
February, April & May.
Let Lindel or Jimi know if you're interested.*

*See you on Monday, January 9th, 6:30 p.m.
at Dennis Parker's Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive!*



Dennis Parker Art Studio, 12120 Warwick Drive, Oklahoma City.