



LCAL.org | 501c3 | lakecoartleague@gmail.com

# Sketches

February 2024



Michael Latala  
Demo Artist at  
19 February Member Meeting



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Back Cover; M Latala

# Sketches

Official Newsletter of Your Lake County Art League

February 2024

## LCAL 19 February Membership Meeting & Demonstration

This meeting will be virtual

### Michael Latala - February Artist Zoom Demo – Feb 19 at 7pm

Michael Latala has a most unusual specialty – live-wedding painting. Find his works in oil, pastel, and charcoal at his [website](#). Michael will demonstrate creating a portrait in charcoal of a live model from his studio.

Here is YouTube link to an [interview](#) Jeff Harold did with him recently. We also hope that he will do a workshop later in the year.



“Camille” charcoal

### Biography

“After receiving a Associate of Arts degree in Advertising/Design from the American Academy of Art, I've had a successful career as a storyboard illustrator working at two of Chicago's largest advertising agencies. I studied painting with Scott Burdick, Dan Gerhartz, Romel De La Torreand and Richard Schmid.”

“Based in Chicago, I express the natural beauty I see in the world through. My landscapes, still life, figurative, and portrait work offer a fresh and seemingly effortless symphony of color. I strive to achieve the overpowering beauty of the artists I admire such as Nicolai Fechin, John Singer Sargent, Joaquin Sorolla and Anders Zorn. I push myself to inspire young artists, and individuals, as these masters have done for me.”

**Questions:** Contact Jeff Harold at [jeffharoldphotography@gmail.com](mailto:jeffharoldphotography@gmail.com)



"Feeding Coi"  
Pastels



"Screech Squint"  
Pastels

## LCAL 18 March Membership Meeting & Demonstration

This in-person meeting will be held at State Bank of the Lakes in Grayslake

**John Plishka will be providing a demonstration of pastel techniques.**

John is a National award winning artist and a Signature Member of the Society of Animal Artists, a member of the Masters Circle of the International Association of Pastel Societies, as well as a Juried Member of the American Academy of Equine Art.

His paintings (<http://www.tyjart.com>) have appeared in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Equus magazine, The Chronicle of the Horse, and the Pastel Journal.

He has exhibited throughout the United States and his paintings are in private collections throughout the country.

His painting "Coil" (right) received the incredible honor of being chosen as the cover art for the 58th Annual Exhibition of the Society of Animal Artists!

" I want to portray animals in a way that is hopefully unique. I enjoy the challenge of trying to get the viewer to see a particular animal in a totally different way. "



"Coil"  
11"x14" Pastels SOLD

**Also at this meeting:**

Handouts of the LCAL 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary poster, the booklet describing LCAL's history, and the trifold brochure that explains what the LCAL is all about, will be available for all members. See page 8 for updates about these documents.



## Follow-up of Demonstration from the LCAL January 15 Membership Meeting

### Michele Byrnes - January Artist Zoom Demo

Please see the following links regarding Michele's demo last month:

- [YouTube recording](#) to Michele's demo.
- Jeff Harold's [YouTube interview](#) with Michele.
- Michele's [website](#).
- See also additional YouTube videos that have been included in the LCAL digital library
- Michele has also published 7 instructional books.

**Questions:** Contact Jeff Harold at [jeffharoldphotography@gmail.com](mailto:jeffharoldphotography@gmail.com)





## Upcoming LCAL 2024 Officer Elections

At our April membership meeting, the nominating committee will present a recommended slate of officers for the following year. **Our current committee only has one member, so we are asking for one or two other members to volunteer for the committee.**

### Officer Positions for the 2024-2025 Year (1 July 24 – 1 July 25):

- The Recording Secretary and Treasurer are willing to continue serving.
- **Vacant positions that we will need to fill:** (see next page for job descriptions)
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Corresponding Secretary

While the officers' duties remain fixed, the way they are performed can change with the times and will reflect the vision of the incumbent. All offices are without salary.

**We ask all members to  
SERIOUSLY consider serving in  
one of the 3 vacant positions!**

As an officer, you will be able to contribute your expertise to an organization that for 90 years has promoted the visual arts in Lake County!

### Applicants

If you're interested in serving in any one of these positions, please talk to a member who previously held that office, to get a true feel for the duties.

Please convey your interest to Val Brandner or any current board member.

See list of officers and board members on page 14).

Val Brandner

email: [isketchit@yahoo.com](mailto:isketchit@yahoo.com)

cell phone: 847-445-2788





## LCAL 2024 Officer Job Descriptions

**President:** This is the only limited-term position, restricted to a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.

- Presides at all LCAL and Board of Directors meetings.
- Performs other duties that the Board of Directors may assign.
- Can fill director positions and appoint a member to a once-a-year job, project, or to liaison with another organization.
- Provides a dignified presence, but can also choose to lead the league in new directions by building a consensus with the Board of Directors and recruiting like-minded talent.
- Has the opportunity to support and inspire a team that genuinely wants to help artists and would-be artists learn and grow.

**Vice President:** Service is for a minimum of 1 year.

- Performs duties as assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors.
- In the absence of the President, the Vice-President presides at all LCAL and Board of Directors meetings.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Service is for a minimum of 1 year.

- Serves as editor of the LCAL newsletters
- Sends out League correspondence (notices of meetings, exhibits, etc.)
- Performs other duties that the Board of Directors may assign
- Can select an assistant to aid in performing these duties.
- Represents an important continuity within the organization. Keeps informed of internal and external communications, which leads to a valuable understanding of art- league mechanics and of the skills and needs of almost every member.



**The poster will also need a title; here are some options:**

Join Lake County Art League Celebration of 90 years. Art leagues have artistic journeys, just like you.

Lake County Art League 90th Anniversary  
Return to the past, develop a future.

Art evolves; it captures our hearts and colors our lives, past and present.



Our **90-year logo** will adorn our signature poster and **anniversary booklet**.

## LCAL 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2024: Update

### Plans for Mary Haas' winning painting

Now that we have selected Mary's painting that carries a viewer back to 1934 we are planning how to most effectively use it. A few plans are:

- Ann Rintz, curator of the CLC gallery, will work with her students to develop the poster design built around Mary's painting. The design will also include some words and phrases related to LCAL. As an example, the anniversary committee has written some free-verse poems that tell the LCAL story.
- Mary's painting will be displayed on an easel at all indoor events.
- Art displays will incorporate the fish-netting theme that ties our story to a time when Waukegan Harbor was home to a major fishery.

### Publicizing anniversary events

It's important that our anniversary events draw the attention of the general public, especially the artistic community. Publicizing our events is one way to get the word out.

- We can bookend our celebration with articles about our anniversary.
- Announcements and articles can be submitted to the Daily Herald, which has lately been featuring half-page art articles written and submitted by art galleries.
- We can utilize the strong publicity programs available in some of our event venues.
- Our show and critique at the Carnegie Library will piggy back on regional interest.
- Forwarding our announcements of upcoming events, to build long-term networking patterns. Many of our announcements will end up forwarded as Facebook entries that complement our own Facebook announcements.

**Questions about the Anniversary?** Contact a committee member; see page 14.



## LCAL 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2024: Update, cont.

### Booklet

An attractive and informative booklet about the history of the LCAL is almost finished it is being proofread and edited. Once the final draft is approved for printing, 100 copies will be made. Deb Edmunds says she enjoyed putting the booklet together!.

### 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Poster

Smaller 11x17 posters will be distributed around the area to promote our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events and encourage membership. They will include a QR code for easy access to our website. The poster content will be tailored for each event. **Anyone who would like to help place the posters in coffee shops, stores, train stations, etc., can arrange to get the posters from Jeff Harold.**

Handouts of the poster, booklet, and **trifold brochure** (the brochure explains what the LCAL is all about), will be available for all members at our next in-person meeting on 18 March.

**Deb Edmunds thanks** the following people for their assistance and their dedication to the LCAL!

- Chris Tanner for taking on the task of writing the contents of the booklet.
- Mary Neely for helping me edit the booklet.
- Clarese Ornstein for meeting with me and discussing the printing details of the booklet.
- Linda Kollacks for creating drawings of the Davies for the cover of the booklet, which turned out great.
- Jeff Harold for all the help with the poster and everything else that he does!
- Val Brandner for printing and paying for the trifold brochures.

### Tom Trausch Workshop April 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

Preparations for this 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event are underway and so far eight people have applied for attendance. Anyone interested in attending, please contact Jim Brooksher at [jimbrooksher@gmail.com](mailto:jimbrooksher@gmail.com).

**There will be plenty of 90<sup>th</sup>-anniversary-related tasks to volunteer for during the year. We appreciate everyone's help and dedication to the LCAL!**





**LCAL 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2024: Update, cont.**

**Our anniversary will be a rhythm of well publicized events**

April-October	Plein air events at interesting locations
May	Brief show and critique in the CLC windowed lower level gallery
June	“Fourth Friday” competition and show at Starline Factory
August	Art Show in half of the AFAF gallery in downtown Antioch
September	A show at Adler with brief presentations by each exhibitor
October	“Fourth Friday” competition and show at Starline Factory
November	Brief show and critique on the main floor of the Carnegie Library

- Posters, handouts and more!**
- QR code and standard logo on posters big and small
  - Updated LCAL handout with standard and “90 Art” logos
  - Commemorative bookmark handout 1934-2024 Odyssey poem
  - Attractive newsletters for browsing
  - Annotated list of planned plein air locations for 2024 for browsing
  - Updated and interesting history for browsing
  - A digital slide show of 1934-2024 Odyssey photos
  - 1934’s \$2.50 dues for new members



## LCAL 2024 Calendar Year

### Scheduled 2024 LCAL Events (apart from our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events)

Mon. 19 Feb	General meeting; demo (virtual)
Mon. 18 Mar	General meeting; demo State Bank of the Lakes, Grayslake
Sat. 6 Apr (approx.)	Spring Membership Show check-in
Mon. 15 Apr	General Meeting; demo; Election of president for next term or two
20, 21 Apr	Tom Trausch Workshop, Antioch Township Center
Mon. 20 May	General Meeting; Spring Membership Show critique (CLC Wright Gallery)
Jun	LCAL Starline Show
Mon. 27 Jun	Annual Meeting; Demo with Sandra Bacon
(Date TBD)	Summer picnic (location TBD)
Aug	Antioch Fine Arts Foundation Show

### Membership Dues

2023-2024 membership dues were due Sep 2023. If you have yet to pay your dues, please contact our Membership Director for further information:  
Betty Perri: 847-362-1730;  
[bettyaperri@gmail.com](mailto:bettyaperri@gmail.com)

**Questions?** Contact Chris Tanner; [chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net)



## Membership Forms: “Interests” Explained

Did you know that your Membership Form is a means of communicating with your board of directors? When filling out your form, we would like to know the medium(s)/techniques you work with in your art, and your interests in different aspects of the organization.

### Interests

When you indicate your interests from the list provided on the membership form, we also want to know if you’d like to be one of our many volunteers. If you skip that part of the form, we have no idea what your interests are. Your interests help identify how you may benefit from being a member and what areas of the organization you may want to volunteer for. After all, our league can’t function without you and fellow members helping with the various tasks of the organization.

*In addition to volunteers, our league is always in need of members who would like to chair a committee or serve on the board.*

### Benefits of Getting Involved

- Support in our shared interest
- Pick up the group’s rhythms, history, purpose and energy
- Experience the excitement of members’ mutual interests, growing your skills, learning interesting information, learning from league events, and awarding the growth of others.

We look forward to you sharing your time and talent with us as we strive to share our experiences with you. Your active involvement in the many activities of the art league will help you grow as an artist and will help us grow as an organization.

Below is a list of ways you can help:

- Spring/Fall Membership Shows
- Art workshops
- Tours
- Plein air sessions
- Social media
- LCAL website
- LCAL newsletters (Sketches and Member News)
- Display of member art
- Zoom hosting

**We thank all members who have volunteered their help --** whether with refreshments, writing for the newsletter, finding volunteers to help with workshops, and many other parts of the organization -- that makes your experience with the LCAL fulfilling and exciting.



## Membership Forms: “Interests” Explained, cont.

**Mediums/Techniques** Here’s what we have learned this year about our 63 members:

Medium/Technique	Number of Members	Medium/Technique	Number of Members
Watercolor	20	Painting, no medium mentioned	2
Oil	20	Jewelry	1
Pastels	10	Graphite	1
Acrylics	9	Scratch art	1
Pen and Ink	5	Printing	1
Photography	5	Collage	1
Mixed media	4	Alcohol inks	1
Colored pencil	4	Children’s book illustrator	1
		None mentioned	4

If you would like to learn who is working in a specific medium, please ask Fran Isaac and she will ask if they would like to get in touch with you by email or phone.

Email Fran at [fmisaac@aol.com](mailto:fmisaac@aol.com) with “LCAL-media” in the subject line.



**Sketches**  
2024

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## LCAL Digital Library Overview

Please enjoy our Digital Library, often emailed to you along with *Sketches* and *MNews*.

The library covers many different topics organized under 9 different categories (see inset below).

Many are video presentations accessed from various services such as YouTube, Amazon Prime, Hulu, and Netflix. To view, click on the link and it will take you directly to that video. *(NOTE: These services sometimes discontinue a show; we will update the lists as we become aware of any changes.)*

We encourage you to contribute to our library by sending us links to your favorite art shows and web sites. In that way, it will become a true reflection of the LCAL, and it will accomplish our mission to promote art in Lake County.

### Digital Library's Current Categories:

- Oil Painting
- Watercolors
- Acrylics
- Documentaries / Art-related
- Galleries and Museums
- Websites to Explore
- Netflix Art Shows
- Hulu Art Shows
- Amazon Prime Art Videos

**Questions?** Contact Val Brandner;  
[isketchit@yahoo.com](mailto:isketchit@yahoo.com)



**Sketches**  
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**February 2024**

## LCAL Meetings and Staff

### The Lake County Art League Year:

Meets Sep through Jun, generally 7-9pm; 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon., as follows:

Jan, Feb, sometimes Mar	Virtual
Sep, Oct, Jan-June	presentations, usually a demonstration
Nov, May	Closing critiques for membership shows
Dec	Holiday break

**Newsletters:** After Nov, newsletters are sent only occasionally to members who have not paid their dues

**Be on the Lookout!** If you see a new way to bring fine art to Lake County, or how to improve the advantages of membership, please share by contacting a member listed to the right.

### 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

Chair	Deb Edmunds	<a href="mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com">edmundsdl@gmail.com</a>
Co-Chair	Chris Tanner	<a href="mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net">chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Val Brandner	<a href="mailto:isketchit@yahoo.com">isketchit@yahoo.com</a>
	Gail Gudgeon	<a href="mailto:Gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com">Gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com</a>
	Jeff Harold	<a href="mailto:jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com">jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com</a>
	Clarese Ornstein	<a href="mailto:socoro@comcast.net">socoro@comcast.net</a>
	Fran Isaac	<a href="mailto:fmisaac@aol.com">fmisaac@aol.com</a>
	Mary Neely	<a href="mailto:mmbn@yahoo.com">mmbn@yahoo.com</a>

Elected Officer	Name	email
President	Jeff Harold	<a href="mailto:jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com">jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com</a>
Vice President	Debbie Kalinowski	<a href="mailto:artbydebbiek@gmail.com">artbydebbiek@gmail.com</a>
Recording Sec	Jack Littlefield	<a href="mailto:thelittlefields@gmail.com">thelittlefields@gmail.com</a>
Corresponding Sec	Chris Tanner	<a href="mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net">chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net</a>
Treasurer	Elizabeth Engle	<a href="mailto:betharoo30@aol.com">betharoo30@aol.com</a>

Directors	Name	email
Art Festivals	(vacant)	
Historian	Ali Albakri	<a href="mailto:nyika1940@gmail.com">nyika1940@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Gail Gudgeon	<a href="mailto:gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com">gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com</a>
Librarian	Debbie Kalinowski	<a href="mailto:artbydebbiek@gmail.com">artbydebbiek@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Betty Perri	<a href="mailto:bettyaperri@gmail.com">bettyaperri@gmail.com</a>
	Bobby Swisher	<a href="mailto:bobby_swisher@outlook.com">bobby_swisher@outlook.com</a>
On-The-Wall	Chris Tanner	<a href="mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net">chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Fran Isaac	<a href="mailto:fmisaac@aol.com">fmisaac@aol.com</a>
Programs	Jeff Harold	<a href="mailto:jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com">jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com</a>
	Fran Isaac	<a href="mailto:fmisaac@aol.com">fmisaac@aol.com</a>
	Debbie Kalinowski	<a href="mailto:artbydebbiek@gmail.com">artbydebbiek@gmail.com</a>
Publicity	(vacant)	
Scholarships	Val Brandner	<a href="mailto:isketchit@yahoo.com">isketchit@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletters	Chris Tanner	<a href="mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net">chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Jody Bennett	<a href="mailto:jorbenn1@yahoo.com">jorbenn1@yahoo.com</a>
Tours	Val Brandner	<a href="mailto:isketchit@yahoo.com">isketchit@yahoo.com</a>
Workshops	Jim Brooksher	<a href="mailto:jimbrooksher@gmail.com">jimbrooksher@gmail.com</a>
	Samantha McDonald	<a href="mailto:clintandsam@gmail.com">clintandsam@gmail.com</a>

### Connection to the Greater Art Community

Social Media	Phil Schorn	<a href="mailto:phil@pschornstudio.com">phil@pschornstudio.com</a>
Website	Phil Schorn	<a href="mailto:phil@pschornstudio.com">phil@pschornstudio.com</a>
Plein Air	Chris Tanner	<a href="mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net">chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Deb Edmunds	<a href="mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com">edmundsdl@gmail.com</a>
Undercroft	Ali Albakri	<a href="mailto:nyika1940@gmail.com">nyika1940@gmail.com</a>

[lakecoartleague@gmail.com](mailto:lakecoartleague@gmail.com)

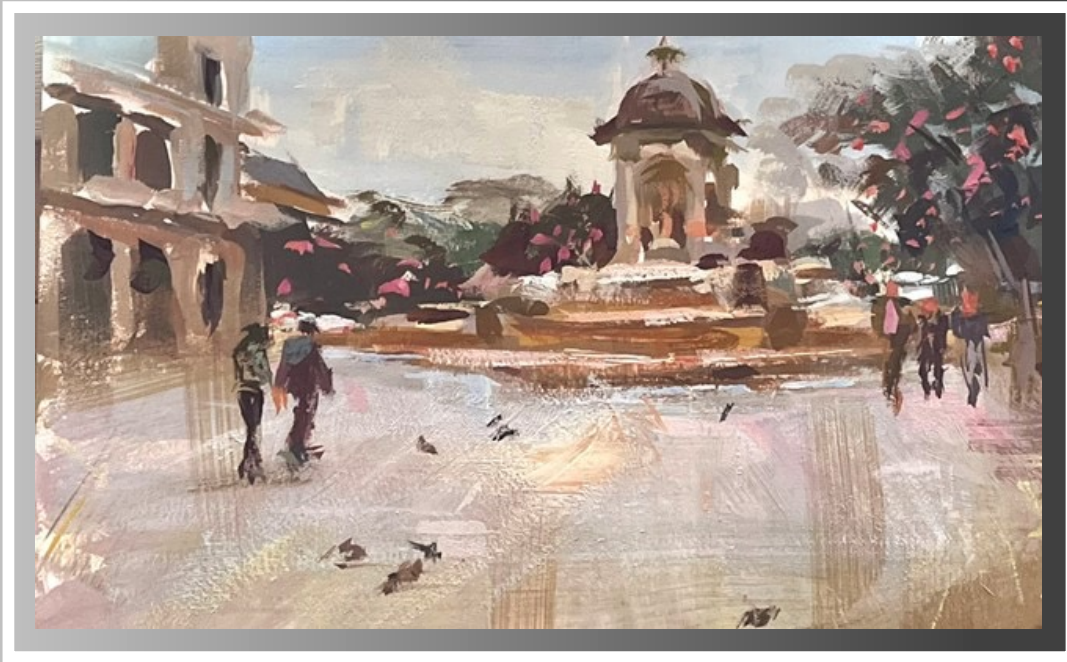
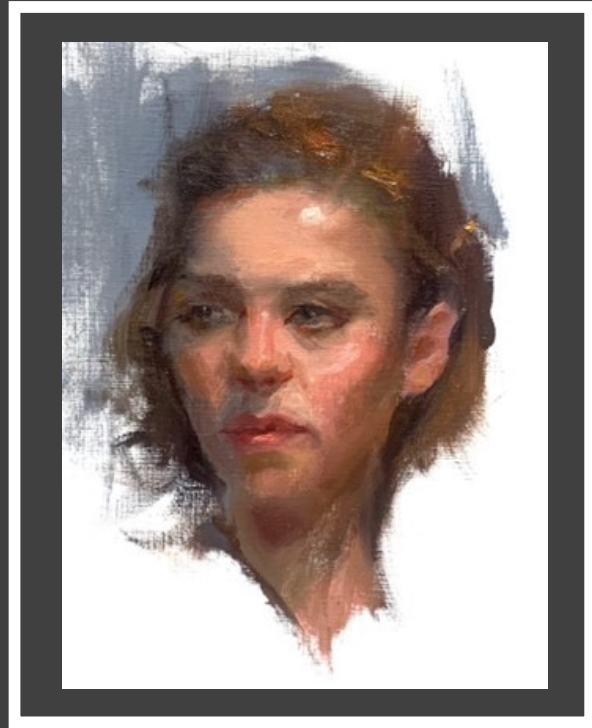




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