



## Sketches...

Official Newsletter of your  
Lake County Art League

September 2022

Since 1934 LCAL.org 501c3

### Exploring the styles and techniques.

*The President Jeff Harold wants each of us to understand how accomplished artists in mediums different from our own reach their viewers. Can a watercolorist learn from the rich textures used so powerfully in oil and acrylics? Can a photographer find some way of making the lost and found edges loved by painters?*

As artists, we all have our favorite medium, whether it's watercolor, oil, acrylic, digital or some other of the many mediums available. But we often find that we get stuck in a rut doing the same thing over and over again. Learning new techniques in our own medium is always good, but learning about the techniques used in other mediums can help advance our own art to a new level.

Last year we had a demonstration by Karen Sato in abstract composite art (you can find her interview and demo on the Lake County Art League YouTube channel). Her work was amazing and it made me want to try her style of abstract work in my own digital medium. My first attempt resulted in the image "Iris". It was an abstract constructed the way Karen showed us. Although I was pleased with this effort, I needed to apply the concepts in a way that worked with my medium and artistic view. This resulted in two different images that were both successful in my view.



Iris



42



Blue Moon

"42" was an abstract in the Karen Sako style but not truly abstract in the strictest sense. It was based on the Douglas Adams' "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" series of books. This image sold when I had it on display at the Starline 4th Friday event.

The second image also applied some of the concepts Karen demonstrated, but with more of my own vision and style. This resulted in the image "Blue Moon." This image took 1st place in our fall member show.

My whole point of this is that our own art can benefit by exploring the style and techniques of artists using different mediums than our own. With this in mind, this coming year we'll be looking for some of the traditional artists that demonstrate unique styles and/or techniques (watercolor, oil, etc.) that we enjoy seeing, but we'll also be looking for some demonstrators that work in mediums that we don't normally see.

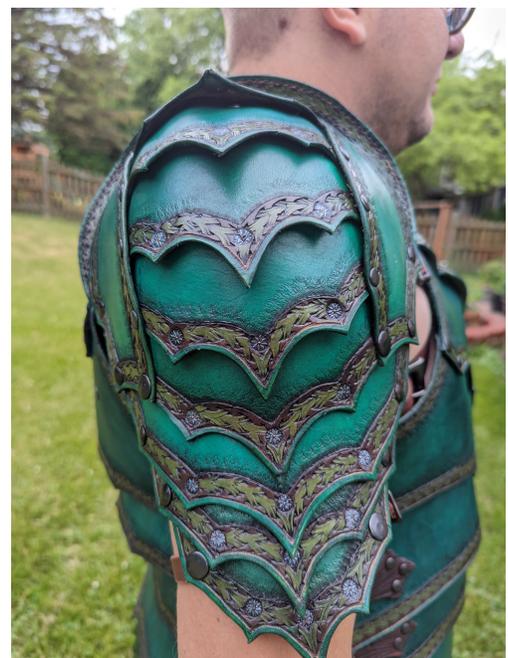
If you have an artist that you would like to give a demonstration to the league, or if you would like to give a demonstration yourself, please contact Fran Issac, Debbie Kalinowski or myself. We are all looking for demonstrators that can provide the members with insight into their own medium, but also concepts that can be "stolen" from other mediums to enhance our own work.

## Samantha McDonald will demo leathercrafting on September 19

*In early June Samantha McDonald, who goes by the name "SamTheJam," could be found with husband Clint painting an Evanston sidewalk mural. This was part of a "Patriotism and Diversity" public art project for the city's upcoming 4th of July celebration. Sam's says her painting is of a Black girl adopted by a gay male couple. "This is the world as we want it to be," she says. "We want to continue growing as a country."*



**Samantha McDonald's leathercrafting demo will follow a brief business meeting on Monday September 19, 7-9:00 pm at the Grayslake State Bank of the Lakes.** Members participating in the LCAL October art show at the Starline Factory in Harvard (see October 14 announcement e-mail) may want to come early, as Jeff Harold will be collecting entries starting at 5:30 pm. Otherwise you must drop off your work either at Jeff's house in Antioch by arrangement, or at the Starline Factory at a date yet to be announced.





By education, Sam is a graphic designer, but prefers the simpler label of “artist.” She started with graphic projects but turned toward acrylic painting, then oil painting, modular origami, modeling, and more recently the detailed leatherwork worn by fictional medieval warriors. We have seen her oil painting before, most recently in our spring membership show. Her recent leatherwork project comes from having seen the fearsome armor and masks of warriors at a Renaissance fair. She soon acquired the tools and materials, is now learning the craft, and to this she adds the expressive flair of an artist. That craft-art hybrid is what she will be sharing with us.

The adopted girl in the mural story grows up to join the Air Force in Sam’s imagination, as both Sam and Clint come from military families. Sam did three sidewalk paintings in

Elgin last year, which are still there, but this one is set to be removed by a city crew in October.

See it yet this month at the corner of Sherman and Church in downtown Evanston. For those who navigate with GPS, the mural is located near a coffee shop at **716 Church St., Evanston IL**.

See Sam’s website at [samthejamartist.com](http://samthejamartist.com), follow her on Facebook, and see Jeff Harold’s recent interview of her at [https://youtu.be/ke\\_ixvuC7KE](https://youtu.be/ke_ixvuC7KE).

## Next Month we will announce a Poster Contest celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary

That’s just the start. We are making plans for very public one-day spring and fall 2024 membership shows, complete with critiques. These would be at parks in Libertyville and Waukegan with lots of advance publicity. Other events are being discussed, and a 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will be formed this fall.

## Dues are Due

Lake County Art League 2022-2023 dues are payable as of Sept 1, 2022. Use the attached form and mail your dues to LCAL, PO Box 5, Gurnee Illinois or call Membership Chair, Betty Perri at 847-975-1730 with questions.

## What are YOU interested in?

Your board would like to know what kind of demos and programs you are interested in seeing in the future. Please send your suggestions to Fran Isaac ([fmisaac@aol.com](mailto:fmisaac@aol.com)) with LCAL PROGRAMS in the subject line. There will also be a sheet by the membership table at the September meeting.

## Fall Membership Show Check-in Saturday October 1

*The President Share your summer's best work and gain new perspectives from a respected professional artist. Just as memorable will be insights from your peers.*

As always, check-in for the Fall Membership Show will be the first Saturday in October, and this year that will be October 1. Members can instead drop off their work in a self-check-in through the following week if necessary. Our six-week show at Waukegan's Jack Benny Center for the Arts will conclude at our



Monday, November 21 general meeting in the center's theater, our last meeting for 2022. Professional artist **Steve Puttrich** will provide a critique of each submittal, and you can learn more about this gifted painter at <https://paletteandchisel.org/instructors/steve-puttrich/>. A separate **Call For Artists** will soon give more details about the check-in and later self-check-in, and will include a Release Form. More Release Forms will be available at the reception desk.

## BOOKS, BOOKS, and MORE BOOKS!

We all love our books, but the world is changing and maintaining a large library of hardbound books has become more and more difficult for the art league. Storing them, dragging them out, accounting for them, dealing with them at zoomed meetings, all present challenges. While books are still wonderful to hold, read, or simply look at technology today offers us a chance to experience knowledge in an even more dynamic way. YouTube is just one example of where we can now go to actually see art being created. From our home computers or cell phones the entire world of art is available to us not only to view, but also to teach us how to create.

With this in mind we have decided to create a brand-new digital library of art material for our members. And we hope that all of you will help us create this library by sharing with us those digital sources that you love and have found helpful in creating your art in whatever medium you work.

What will we do with our hardbound library? For the next few in-person meetings we will put them out for our members to take free of charge. **Since we purchased many of the books and many were donated in memory of loved artists, we would ask that you consider making a free will donation to the Art League General fund for the books that you take.** Also, if you know of an organization that you believe would appreciate some of these art books, we could consider donating some to them. Whatever is not taken or donated we will attempt to sell.

And with your help we look forward to having a vibrant digital library.

## And ...

The Lake County Art League year runs from September through June, meeting 7-9:00 pm on the third Monday of these months. Meetings in January, February and probably March are done virtually to eliminate winter nighttime driving. Meetings in September, October, January, February, March, April and June include presentations, usually a demonstration. November and May meetings are the closing critiques for our popular fall and spring membership shows.

Finally, we take a holiday break in December. After December our newsletters will be sent only occasionally to members who have not paid their dues.

If you sense there is new way to bring fine art to Lake County, or you know how to improve the advantages of membership, please share that. Contact one of the members below.

### Schedule, LCAL 2022-23

Mon 19 Sept 2022, 7-9:00, for a live meeting and demo at the Grayslake State Bank of the Lakes.

Sat 1 Oct 2022, 10-1:00, for a "come and go" Fall Membership Show check-in at the Waukegan Jack Benny Center.

Mon 17 Oct 2022, 7-9:00, for a live meeting and demo at the Grayslake State Bank of the Lakes.

Mon 21 Nov 2022, 7-9:00, for a live meeting and critique at the Waukegan Jack Benny Center.

Tues\* 17 Jan 2023, 7-9:00, for a virtual meeting and demo from any artist's studio anywhere.

Tues\* 21 Feb 2023, 7-9:00, for a virtual meeting and demo from any artist's studio anywhere.

Mon 20 Mar 2023, 7-9:00, for a virtual meeting and demo from any artist's studio anywhere.

Sat 1 Apr 2023, 10-1:00, for a "come and go" Spring Membership Show check-in at the Waukegan Jack Benny Center.

Mon 17 Apr 2023, 7-9:00, for our very first live and broadcast meeting and demo at the Libertyville Civic Center.

Mon 15 May 2023, 7-9:00, for a live meeting and critique at the Waukegan Jack Benny Center.

Tues\* 20 June 2023, 7-9:00, for a live meeting and demo at the Gurnee Viking Park, with a Libertyville Civic Center wet weather option.

\*Monday is a bank holiday

### Elected Officers

President	Jeff Harold	jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com
Vice President	Fran Issac	fmisaac@aol.com
Recording Sec	Jack Littlefield	thelittlefields@gmail.com
Corresponding Sec	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
assisting CS	Anne-Marie Bracken	amabracken@gmail.com
Treasurer	Elizabeth Engle	betharoo30@aol.com

### Directors

Art Festivals	(vacant until festivals again become viable)	
Historian	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com
Hospitality	Gail Gudgeon	gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com
Librarian	Debbie Kalinowski	artbydebbiek@gmail.com
Membership	Betty Perri	bettyperri@gmail.com
	Leslie Nauta	nautateam@comcast.net
On-The-Wall	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Fran Issac	fmisaac@aol.com
Programs	Jeff Harold	jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com
	Fran Issac	fmisaac@aol.com
	Debbie Kalinowski	artbydebbiek@gmail.com
Publicity	Tom Perkowitz	perkowitz@mac.com
Scholarships	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
Newsletters	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Anne-Marie Bracken	amabracken@gmail.com
Tours	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
Workshops	Jim Brooksher	jimbrooksher@gmail.com
	Samantha McDonald	clintandsam@gmail.com

### Connection to the greater Art Community

Social Media	Phil Schorn	phil@pschornstudio.com
Website	Phil Schorn	phil@pschornstudio.com
Plein Air	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
Undercroft	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com



Please complete this form and submit it with your payment

# Membership Form

2022-2023 Year

The membership year runs from the September general meeting to the September general meeting of the following year. Annual dues are to be paid at or before the September general meeting, and are \$20 for a full-time student (12 hours minimum), \$35 for an individual and \$45 for a family. New members joining after **March 1 2023** will pay half the annual dues.

Make your check payable to "Lake County Art League" and mail it to:

**Lake County Art League**  
**Post Office Box #5**  
**Gurnee, IL 60031**

Questions? Contact Betty Perri at 847-975-1730, or [bettyaperri@gmail.com](mailto:bettyaperri@gmail.com).

Payment: \$20 Student \$35 Individual \$45 Family

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*for correspondence, newsletters and notices

Art Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing Member Returning Member New Member

LCAL Newsletter **Sketches:** Send e-mail edition only (preferred) Send printed edition

As a member of the Lake County Art League we look forward to your 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 us grow as an organization. That involvement will also give you greater personal contact with your fellow members, including directors and elected officers. Please circle interests below that suit you and your sense of how to bring fine art to the people of Lake County.

- spring/fall membership shows
- help with art workshops
- help with tours
- help with plein air sessions
- help with social media
- help with website
- help with newsletter
- help with member news
- help with display of member art
- help with Zoom hosting

Other special interest? Tell us. \_\_\_\_\_

**[PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE AT LCAL.ORG](http://www.lcal.org)**