



Drawing by Denis Chilton

# artMATTERS



The newsletter of

**The Lakeside Pumphouse Artists' Association**

Spring 2016

## Executive

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### President

Dave Morley

### Vice President

Adrienne Brown

### Treasurer

Colette Verrier

### Secretary

Ann Glasford

## Committees

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### Art Shows

Roma Rojik

### Membership

Pat McGuire

### Newsletter

Fran Elliott

### Phone Tree

Nancy Teminski

### Publicity

Flora Hutterer

### Workshops

Joyce Richardson

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The days of winter are ebbing away as I write this. It's been a not-so-bad kind of winter, given the persistently horrible one we had the year before. But while its winter, we've had some warm experiences at our workshop and demos.

At the Atanur Dogan workshop, a number of first time attendees experienced putting water into watercolour. Lots of water. Then there were the back-to-back demos where a number of you learned much more from Rose Ann at *Framecraft*, and have now gone to their location in St. Catharines to shop and visit and shop. The Julie Snider demo was a more than full house, and that's good.

So now we look forward to Spring activities. Debra Tate-Sears visits us again in May, bringing egg tempera techniques; and don't forget Judy Mayer-Grieve in June for oil and acrylics. Looking into the summer we will have Doug Purdon, who will fill your head with tasty morsels of all things pertaining to art.

The first Wednesday of June also sees our next demo with Bianka Guna, a Golden (Paints) working artist, with a product demonstration. Our Summer Social is scheduled for June 15, back at Legends Estates Winery.

In the Executive — the Vice President will assume responsibility for the Demos, and will coordinate all Pumphouse activities. This means compiling all activities and dates for this year and next. The VP will also become our Ambassador. This is currently Adrienne Brown.

The Ambassador is probably something we did in the past, but it has been lost in time. The idea is to be the Go-To person for new members: to help them acclimate into the group; to feel comfortable; understand how things operate; to be introduced to the executive; and to answer any questions.

Another project we will be working on is *Open Doors Grimsby*. We will be part of that event, and we will run our fall exhibition and sale at the same time as that event.

So, we look forward to the next few months and the summer. It should be an interesting time.

Dave

# FEATURED MEMBERS

## theresaCHEVERIE



Theresa has been taking lessons and painting watercolours from Joyce Hamilton for about 15 years. Working full time at West Lincoln Hospital as an Administrative Assistant didn't allow much leisure painting time, but knowing that one class a week was dedicated to

watercolour and an evening with fellow artists was valued "me" time she needed. Theresa also joined in on some of the Pumphouse weekend workshops when time permitted.

In 2006 Theresa's husband Steve surprised her with an unusual Christmas present. Feeling she had a talent to be shared with others, and "there's no use for all of your paintings to just be sitting in the basement", he had booked the Beamsville Library for her own showing of works in a show entitled "From the Heart". In 2011 a second show "Between Friends" was booked sharing the space and the collaborative art of two friends, Lynn Gavey and Patti Roberts.

Theresa is recently retired and is now able to join us at the Pumphouse on Wednesday afternoons. "I love seeing what fellow artists are working on and I am in awe with the talent under one roof. There's always a technique to learn and improve on and sharing this time with others helps inspire me to challenge myself."



## nancyTEMINSKI



Colour and design have always enriched her life.

Retirement allowed time to learn to express her personal interests and explore new things. She retired as Instructor-in-Charge after teaching adult ESL to perspective ESL teachers, international students, refugees, immigrants, migrants and Canadian citizens while employed at

Brock University, Niagara College and the Niagara Catholic District School Board. She has strived to change her life focus every 10 to 15 years.

Nancy worked as a custom's clerk at General Motors for over 10 years, then as a stay-at-home mother. She completed three degrees and eventually got back into education where she worked for nearly 15 years. Lucky to have so much variety in her life but was suddenly 65, two grandchildren and retired, it was time to draw upon interests and talents at her leisure.

Her best friend since high school, Joyce Richardson, invited Nancy to visit her art group and introduced her to watercolour. Watercolour was quite different from oil painting that she had practiced years ago. This challenge fit in perfectly with her postcard collecting, gardening, reading and enjoying life with her retired husband.

As a LPAA member since 2008 her artistic skills are continuing to develop and reawaken in new ways. Practicing her 'art' is a personal enjoyment, gaining

appreciation for everything around her. When she sells or exhibits, she gains confidence to attempt more. This is a hobby where there is so much to learn and so many intriguing directions to expand upon. I see my art as an ongoing adventure.

Nancy is currently our Phone Tree Coordinator.

## daveMORLEY



Meet our President.

In grade 3 Dave was reprimanded for drawing in math class. In grade 6 he won the first of three design contests – but he wasn't eligible for two more years. In

grade 11 his geography teacher asks why not taking art? He was in the math and science stream.

Dave always used his artistic abilities to create puzzles, carvings, design badges, create props and backdrops for figure skating shows, and to design his garden landscape. He also created many of the unique pieces in this garden.

Dave has been married to Nancy for 48 years. They both do volunteer work in other organizations; sometimes together and sometimes for different organizations. They have two daughters and three grandchildren. Dave worked for Dofasco as a systems analyst — a trouble shooter; retiring exactly 40 years to the day he started. It wasn't until retirement that he took his art seriously; completing the Fine Arts Watercolour Certificate from Mohawk College in 2009. Since then he has taken many workshops at the Pumphouse, courses at the RGB, and pushed and prodded by our late Life Member, Tibor's Nyilasi, to continue his

painting and drawing of architecture. If it was good it was 'music' Tibor would tell him, otherwise it's just a drawing.

Dave's work has been exhibited many times as part of a group, and has sold both his watercolour and pen and ink drawings. You can find his work in corporations, professional offices and private collection – which surprises the heck out of him.

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**WELCOME**  
new members  
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**In this issue we welcome Jan Cegnar** to the Pumphouse. Jan is a member of the Hamilton Calligraphy Guild and currently the president. While lettering has been her passion, she has expanded by incorporating watercolour and gestural movements into lettering. She continues to study with well-known Calligraphers and also volunteers her time to bring awareness to those who are interested. She is currently exploring watercolour.

**We also welcome Wendy Gordon-Forsyth** to the Pumphouse, and welcome back **Gloria Kingma**.

### MEMBERS ON DISPLAY

*We have many members exhibiting in a few places in and out of town.*

*The **Wine Route Gallery** in Vineland is featuring artists **Flora Hutterer** and **Silva Talmassons**.*

*The **Objects to Desire Gallery/Gift Shop** in Grimsby is featuring artists, **Chris Green, Flora Hutterer, Lorraine Mayes** and **Silva Talmassons**.*

***McMaster Innovation Park** in Hamilton is featuring artists **Erin Gillis, Dave Morley, Mary Nobel** and **Colette Verrier**. This exhibition opens on April 5 and runs until July 7.*

## workshopREVIEW

The Atanur Dogan workshop was a great success. There are now a few more converts who are using more water in their watercolours. Workshop participants were able to implement greater colour tones and varied techniques as demonstrated by Atanur. Fifteen participants enjoyed the two days of learning and painting; most producing two paintings during the workshop. *They share their evaluation comments: an excellent workshop; enjoyed every moment; a wonderful experience; fabulous; really enjoyed watching this artist paint; enjoyable and informative as always.*

14 of the 15 participants requested to have Atanur return, and have even chosen the two subjects to paint next time.



*Participants show day 1 paintings*



*Workshop painting by Doug Archer*

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## Improve your artwork with this composition tip

by Phil Davies, March 10, 2016

Most artists only think about the content of their drawings and paintings. In beginner photography, there's a simple tip for instantly improving your snapshots — get closer.

How is it going to benefit you as an artist?

The goal is, or at least it should be, to make the image as visually engaging as it possible. That's the purpose of a piece of artwork: capture and hold the viewer's attention. Yet the one thing that affects the interest levels more than anything else, is almost always completely ignored, particularly by amateur artists, and that is composition. Most artists only think about the content of their drawings and paintings.

Is it going to be a portrait, and of whom? A landscape, and where from? But it's not the content that has the biggest influence on how interesting and engaging your piece of art will be. It's the way that content is presented. And that is what composition is all about! You can take the most mundane subject matter in the world and make it truly stunning with good compositional choices. And opposite to that, you can take any one of the Seven Wonders of the World and make them look fairly wonderless with poor compositional choices.

Just take a moment and think back. Have you ever seen a photograph or another piece of art and have been really inspired to get your paints out? You





Figure 1: Nice but uninspiring

don't know why, and it's not something you can put your finger on. It's just a certain feeling that holds your gaze. I guarantee that that photo or piece of artwork follows the principles of good composition; principles that we are going to briefly touch on.

So what is composition?

Composition is the way you arrange and present your subject matter in order to create a more pleasing image. You might say that things that are interesting or pleasing are completely subjective. What pleases me might grate on you. And that is certainly true to a degree, but there are a number of visual characteristics that trigger the same aesthetically pleasing response in all of us. It is those characteristics we want to exploit as artists.

There are a wide variety of compositional rules, but while it seems that there may be a lot of them, they come down to one core principle — the focal point. This is telling your viewer what the single, most interesting part in your picture is, and guiding their eye back to it once their eyes have explored the rest of the image.

In photography, there's a well know maxim for instantly improving your snapshots ... get closer.

Getting close to your subject can often be the best way to show it off and to remove distracting details in the background. It creates drama and intensity; and it allows you to show detail and texture that your viewer wouldn't otherwise see. Taking this to the extreme is called *filling the frame* and it's a technique you can use in your next piece of art.



Figure 2: This fills the frame and tells a story

Filling the frame does several things. Firstly, it leaves the viewer in no doubt what the central subject is. It stops you from adding unnecessary background clutter that can detract from your main subject; it allows you to show off intricate details and textures that your viewer wouldn't otherwise see, and it also creates drama and intensity. Things closer to us tend to have greater emotional impact. So, how do you decide to fill the frame or take a step back and include more of the scene?

Well, it all comes down to the story you want to tell. If you need to capture more of the scene to tell the story then that is what you do. If the story and the beauty is in the detail, then consider filling the frame.



# WORKSHOPS

## Debra Tate-Sears

May 13-14, *Egg Tempera*

WE WELCOME DEBRA, back to the Pumphouse. This year our members have requested that Debra repeat instruction on Egg Tempera.

With this medium, we will be examining watercolour with a "different approach" that involves a little more control of the paint, and less water. Small areas of thin transparent washes are applied and the depth of colour and shadow are built up. The effect is one of deeper contrast and sharper colour.

This picture and the materials list are on our website.



## Judy Mayer-Grieve

June 24-25, *Oil and Acrylic*



JUDY MAYER-GRIEVE is a graduate of the OCAD who has worked in art and design for over 40 years. She has worked with some of the top publishing and advertising companies, including Carlton Cards, Northern Reflections, McDonalds Restaurants and Sears. Judy uses her personal history which is rich in images of European historic art. This workshop offers participants a chance to paint in the spirit of the Great Masters with a choice of two Sargent paintings that have abstract elements based on space relationship. We will progress by painting a section that is not a straight copy.

## COMING WORKSHOPS

June 24-25	Judy Mayer-Grieve	Watercolour, Acrylic or Oil
August 26-27	Doug Purdon	Windsor Newton Representative Watercolour and Gouache
September 30 - October 1	Bill Biddle	Watercolour and Acrylic
November 11-12	Andrew Sookrah	Watercolour and Acrylic

*Check out website for more details about coming workshops.*

# WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

Please Check ONE  LPAA Member  GPAG Member  Non-member

Workshop \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ PCode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Make cheque payable to the *Lakeside Pumphouse Artists' Association*.

Submit application along with cheque to:

**Joyce Richardson,  
2774 8th Ave R.R. #1,  
Jordan, ON, L0R 1S0**

Fee enclosed:  
(CHECK  APPROPRIATE)

Debra Tate-Sears \$80 (non-member \$90)  
 Judy Mayer-Grieve \$80 (non-member \$90)



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## WORKSHOP RECEIPT

Received from:

Payment: \$  cheque  cash

Signed:

Date:

***Use this form for each workshop. Print extra copies if required.***  
*The form for the specific workshop is also online at [www.grimsbylpaa.com/Workshops.html](http://www.grimsbylpaa.com/Workshops.html)*