

# TEACHERS & EDUCATORS of ART MATERIALS *Great Lake Region Newsletter 2010* *Volume 1*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Snow shovels, Winter Boots, Long Johns these are the signs of the times as I write this newsletter. The sad part is there is no escaping this stuff. Even my snowbird friends who left for Florida right after the first of the year are complaining of below freezing weather. THINK SPRING! Paint flowers and lovely summer landscapes to take your mind off the cold weather. For me, I am leaving this week for my first cruise to Grand Caymans and Cozumel. I don't care if it's 40 degrees we are going to swim with the dolphins, eat and have a wonderful time. Until then plan on spending some quality time with classes being taught by our talented members this year. More details later. Keep warm and stay happy. Mandy

## 2010 DUES

2010 Dues are due. PLEASE NOTE – I WILL BE SENDING AN UPDATED LIST OF PAID MEMBERS TO THE TEAM WEBMASTERS ON JANUARY 25. AT THAT TIME YOU WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE WEBSITE. TEAM has added a new FREE painting packet on line at the website that is available only to paid members. Mail \$15.00 dues to Treasurer Sulayne Brook, 69 Mahlon Street, Shinnston, WV 26431. Make check payable to Great Lakes Region. To remain a member of our Region and gain the benefits of membership, dues are due by January 1, 2010. All news releases and newsletters are sent out by email. If you received this newsletter by snail mail, it means I don't have a current email address. When you change email address please forward this info to me. Please include your address, email, phone or cell phone and whether you teach when you send your dues.

## MEMBERS PAID DUES:

Members who paid their dues at HCH for 2010 are: Shari VanBramer, Marlene Moose, Norma Kessler, Linda VanDyke, Nancy VanCuren, Mary Lauck, Sulayne Brooks (2010 & 2011), Mandy Steele, Nancy Clark, Lou Ann Reckley, Connie Frye, Lyda Virden, Mary Moore, Carol Horst, Doni Adams and Ilene Grattan. If I missed anyone, please let me know. I am sorry I overlooked dues paid by Carol Hoffman and have since received dues from Vicki Miracle, Barbara Hill, Carol Slagel, and Elizabeth Cody. Hopefully, I didn't miss anyone this time. If you want to take advantage of the class discount in 2010 – don't forget to pay your dues by January 1.

## BONUS TREAT

For those who pay their dues by January 1, you will receive a \$50 credit toward a painting class at our spring meeting. So get out your checkbook and mail your \$15.00 dues to Sulayne today.

## SPRING MEETING.

Get out your calendars and mark the dates April 29 – May 1 at Hilltop Community Building, Hannible, OH. Dorothy Dent will be offering a different painting each day. I don't have to tell most of you what a wonderful teacher Dorothy is. There has been a change to the Saturday class due to a conflict in Dorothy's travel plans. The class on Saturday will now only be one painting at a reduced price. Georgia will be accept reservations for these classes. More information will be available after the first of the year. Contact Georgia at (740) 483-1811 or write to 49675 Dangel Lane, Sardis, OH 43946. REMEMBER if your dues are paid by January you will get a \$50.00 credit toward one of these classes. The GLR Spring meeting will be held on Friday, April 30 following dinner at the community building.

#### HOMECOMING HUES PAINTING RETREAT – North Bend State Park, WV

Wow! Have you received your brochure on line from Kitty yet? If you haven't you are in for a treat. I keep wondering how Kitty and Chuck are going to improve this wonderful get away in September but each year they manage to do just that. In addition to the ever popular Dorothy Dent and Mark Polomchak, Brenda Harris will be painting in acrylics this year. And if that doesn't wet your appetite, Extra classes will be taught on Sunday by Kitty and Carol Hoffman. Don't wait! I understand that the lodge is almost completely booked and if you want your favorite classes, register now or because a lot of us prepaid early just to get that first choice of these wonderful classes. The dates are Sept. 7 – 12 at North Bend State Park in Cairo, West Virginia. I haven't missed attending since the first Retreat and good Lord willing I will be there this year with bells on. (most of you know I am a little "dingy" anyway. Check it out – [www.KittyGorrell.com](http://www.KittyGorrell.com).

#### CLASSES AT GEORGIA DANGELS

Mark Polomchak – June 30, July 1 – June 30 – July 1 (2 paintings, boards included in price.  
Kathy George – August 25 & 26 – Batik on Rice Paper. Kathy is bringing the rice paper.  
Mandy Steele – Aug. 27 & 28 – Discover Still Life Painting – You will need to bring 16 x 20  
Contact Georgia at (740) 483-1811 or write to 49675 Dangel Lane, Sardis, OH 43946.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

As of Dec. 31, 2009 we had \$2,620.30 in checking and \$5.00 in savings.

#### ARTISTS UNITED ANNUAL CONVENTION

Artist United, a non-profit national art group, will hold the 2010 Annual Convention at Gatlinburg, TN April 21 – 24. Teachers will be Mark Polomchak and Marie Merritt. I will be taking a second vacation this year to attend. The event sounds great in a wonderful area of our country. The paintings by Mark and Marie are exceptional. You can visit their website [www.AUartists.org](http://www.AUartists.org) or email [artunited@comporium.net](mailto:artunited@comporium.net). You may also call Mary Stephenson at (803) 329-1928 evenings, if you are interested in becoming a member or attending the Convention.

#### TEAM WEBSITE – NEW FACE LIFT

The TEAM Website wizards are Smokey Beare-Spencer, Harold Champagne, and Ollie Trawick are our "dynamic trio". They have put their exceptional talents together and created a new and innovative website for our regions. If you haven't visited the Teachers and Educators of Art Materials (TEAM) you are really missing a treat. This is a great way to find out what the other regions are offering in classes and educational seminars. Contact members in other regions. Newsletters from other regions. This is a wonderful place to update or add your own website. I think our web gurus deserve a very special pat on the back. Especially since they do all the computer work on a volunteer basis. Now that it was I call TEAM dedication. It is very professional and user friendly. The website address is [www.artteachers.org](http://www.artteachers.org). If you have questions about setting up your site, you can contact Smokey at [beareart@gmail.com](mailto:beareart@gmail.com) or Harold Champagne at [hchampagne@bellsouth.net](mailto:hchampagne@bellsouth.net). They are really wonderful in answering questions and helping computer illiterate people like me.

#### TEAM WEBSITE EXCITEMENT

The new addition that I am excited about is the availability of pattern packets from artists throughout TEAM will soon be available. Teachers can submit one packet to the webteam. A new packet will be posted on line each month and the old one will be archived. You must be a TEAM member available by password only. If you teach these projects, credit should be given to the original artist. If you are interested in submitting a packet to share, send it to [webteam@artteachers.org](mailto:webteam@artteachers.org). Subject: Website. As soon as it is ready they will send this year's password with a brief note on "how to". I am really looking forward to this new addition.

### IT'S NOT TO LATE – HURRY, HURRY, HURRY

2010 TEAM PONY EXPRESS ART SHOW – sponsored by the TEAM -Western Region is open to all national tea members. Basis information is submit 5x7 photo of your art work. No frame in picture. Entry fee is \$5.00 for each submission with a limit of 2 per member. Divisions are 1. Oil/acrylic 2. Watermedia 3. Pastels 4. Graphics/pencil/pen/ink. Categories: landscape, seascape, animal/wildlife/birds, Portraits, Floral, Cityscape. Dead line for mail-in is January 20, 2010. Make checks payable to Carol Earle Western TEAM with memo of Pony Express Art Show. Place the check in the envelop with the pictures of your art work. Mail to Roy Gould, 1048 E. Walnut, Glendora, CA 91741-3664. Include a self-addressed envelope to receive your pictures back. Art Show will be held o Feb. 25, 2010. If you have any more questions, you can email Carol at [carolearle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolearle@sbcglobal.net) or (209) 380-6288.

### TEAM NORTHEAST CONFERENCE

The 2010 Northeast Conference will be held at the Acadia Birches Knights Inn in Ellsworth, ME June 23 – 26. Teachers will be Brenda Harris and Mark Polomchak. For more details, you can go to the TEAM website and check it out. It sounds like a really great time.

### BRUSH CARE FOR OIL PAINTING BRUSHES

I thought this was a really good article by our own Kitty Gorrell and wanted to share this information. Taking care of brushes is probably one of my obsessions that I try to pass along to my students. Buying better quality brushes will improve your artwork – BUT YOU MUST TAKE CARE OF THEM. Thanks, Kitty for providing this information.

Proper brush care is one of the first things a painter must learn. If cared for properly, a brush will serve you thru many, many paintings. If not used and cared for properly, they can be ruined in one session.

Never “scrub” a brush back and forth on a surface unless it is a brush made especially for that purpose. With very few exceptions you should always pull your brush, never push it backwards breaking the hairs or the bristles. When putting your brush in fluid, always swish it gently back and forth avoiding the bottom of the fluid container unless you are using a brush cleaning rack. Then you can gently brush on the rack or pad to assist in cleaning.

To thoroughly clean your oil brush, you should:

1. First wipe the brush gently on a paper towel or disposable cloth to remove as much paint as possible. Then swish the brush gently in brush fluid to remove the majority of leftover paint.
2. Pat dry on soft cloth or paper towel.
3. Work a small amount of a cream brush cleaner or baby oil into hairs of the brush. This will work out any hidden paint and recondition your brush for later use. As the cleaner gets dirty, discard and get a clean amount. Repeat until no more paint is coming from the brush.
4. Place in a standing position in a container so that the top of the brush is free standing out of the container top. When you next use the brush simply swish in clean odorless thinner to remove the baby oil or cleaner and paint as usual.

PLEASE SEND NEWS – THIS IS YOUR REGION AND YOU CAN PROMOTE SHARE AND ENJOY EACH OTHERS TALENTS.

Please pay your dues, take a class, share the knowledge and keep the paint flowing.

President, Mandy Steele

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