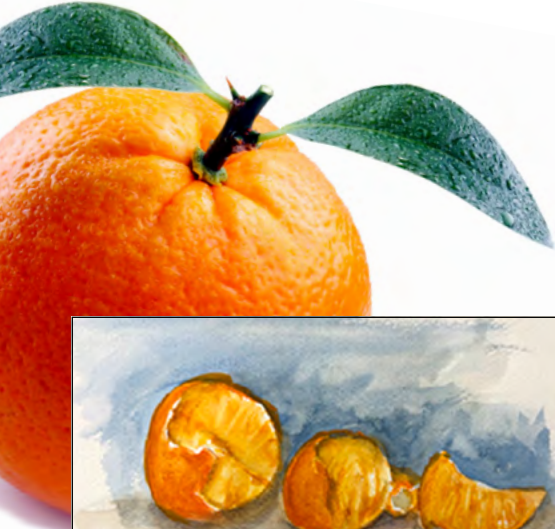




Community Outreach — Oakland Veterans

Oranges Galore



The closest thing to plein air during winter, when you can't paint outside, is a still life that you can personally arrange or compose. Fifty oranges and several orange tree leaves gave the Oakland veterans plenty of options. Furthermore, there were choices of paper sizes from postcards to quarter sheets. There was a painting sample and a magazine cover depicting oranges piled, peeled, and otherwise. A fresh blob of Holbein Permanent Yellow Orange pigment was added to everyone's palette and the drawings and paintings began.

The atmosphere of quiet concentration was broken when Pat mentioned that she passed skunk spray on her ride into class. The conversation ricocheted around other wild animals now found in humans' neighborhoods and humans found in animals' neighborhoods, from rats to pumas, and what to do when encountering them.

The painting continued, and someone asked about backgrounds. Pat shared that she planned to create a vignette for hers. A "vignette" refers to artwork that gradually fades into its background without a defined border. This approach became quite popular, with some participants requesting a second piece of paper for a postcard. Libby tracked the time. We were to be cleaned up and out by 1:00 pm. By 12:50 we lined the paintings up on the counter for comments. The overall look was very cheerful and pleasing. Some were more finished than others. Two painters opted for the pre-arranged bowl, and several had signed and dated their paintings.

My key takeaway was that providing subject matter that can be painted simply or in a more complex manner allows for a relaxed atmosphere and engaging pieces of art. This was especially true in this case, particularly for those who enjoy the color orange.

Sheila Cain

Co-Director, Community Outreach





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To Email a Board, Staff or Committee Member Go To

www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php
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Make changes to your address, phone number and email on the members home page, under membership when you're logged with a current membership account. Email datamanager@californiawatercolor.org if you have trouble logging in.

General Meetings

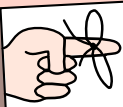
Monthly General Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00 pm–9:00 pm, PDT, via Zoom, unless otherwise specified.

Newsletter Distribution

To receive this newsletter electronically please contact the Webmaster with the email address at which you wish to receive the newsletter.

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CWA may be taking photos or videos at CWA events. Your attendance at CWA events constitutes your "permission, consent, and release" to be photographed without compensation whatsoever in perpetuity. Images may be used online and in print exclusively by CWA explicitly for publicity, information, and promotion.



Plan Ahead!

Submissions for the newsletter must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication!

**May Newsletter
Deadline is April 15th.**

Click here to make a submission.

Community Outreach — Martinez Veterans

Courage and Creativity



After starting the year with a "Back to the Basics" approach, we found ourselves in a different location with a mix of familiar and new faces. We decided to play.

The artists painted paper randomly with water, leaving some dry areas. Color was added, and mixing and brush techniques were experimented with. After they were dry they were scrutinized to find images within. With pencils, the artists "found" figures, animals, and other objects.

Discussion and comparison followed with each artist describing what they found. Unsurprisingly, it was a deeply personal process.

One veteran allowed me to photograph his self-made adaptive writing tool. He used a section of dollar store pipe noodle and inserted a pen in one end and a stylus pen in the other. This enables him to draw, write, and use his cell phone.

These artists are finding their way to create no matter what barriers arise.

Maggie Metcalf

Community Outreach

Welcome New CWA Members

Edith Beckman, Gina Easley, Ellen Hedfield,
Judi Howard, Grant Larson, Jessica Miquelon

Click here to email membership, then choose
Membership Director from the Recipient drop-down menu.

Click here to Join or Renew Today!