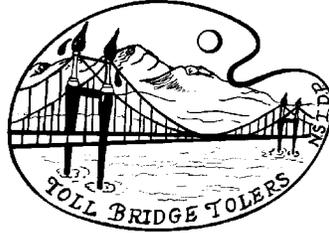


The Painting



Concord, California, U.S.A.

Connection

A Monthly Newsletter
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2018



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

January has zipped by all too quickly and we are now welcoming February. At our January meeting Shirley taught a cute glass lamp with a Gail Anderson design. We did not have a high attendance at the meeting, but most stayed to paint. For those of you who finished your lamps, please bring them in to share.

We received news from the Northern California Chapters Council (NCCC) that they are disbanding the Council. There has been a steady decline in attendance at the Retreats and this has made it very difficult to continue to have the funds that are required to plan and facilitate a retreat.

Our own Chapter has declined in members due to various circumstances. I'm sure you all share my concern that our Chapter remains active and grows. I encourage you to think of ways we can attract new members. If you have ideas on how we can do this, please share them at our meeting. With our numbers shrinking, please think of taking an officer position or chairing a committee when nomination time comes around. We are a very supportive Chapter of each other and I know would be very supportive of anyone who steps up and helps lead our Chapter. For all of

you who are holding an office or chairing a committee now or in the past, thank you.

We are anxiously awaiting the Karen Brouwer seminar on February 10th. Cathy has sent the class supply list out. As Merlene has stated in her email, if you do not have the exact brushes that are listed you probably have a brush that will work just as well. What a joy that we do not have to do any prep work for the seminar. ☺

In Memoriam



In the world of decorative painting, artists, designers and teachers who have advanced the artform are known as "Big Brushes".

On December 21, 2017 one of our "Big Brushes", Betty Caithness passed away. She was an amazing painter, designer and teacher. Her loss is being felt by the entire decorative painting industry. She will be

missed. She was only 76 years old. Featured above is a perfect example of the type of work Betty created. This painting is titled Cape Cod Winter. You can find her beautiful pattern packets and videos through various online shops.

For more you can also Google images of her work. Amazing. She really did leave her mark.

Connie



PROGRAMS

1st Vice President

Everyone seemed to enjoy painting a Gail Andersen flower pattern on an oil lamp at our January meeting. Thank You Shirley Irwin for supplying the lamps, paint and pattern.

Carrie Garrett will be teaching our February program, a "Sunflower and Strawberry Hearts Candy Cone". The cost will be \$3.00. You will find an instruction sheet from Carrie with the supplies needed for this project at the back of this newsletter. Carrie will supply the paint and material needed. **Please bring the instruction sheet to the meeting with you.**



Looking forward to seeing everyone there!!

Marianne



MEMBERSHIP

2nd Vice President

We have wonderful projects this year and would love to have new members enjoy them with us. Invite a friend to join us for one of our meetings or events. They can join the National Society with a Trial Membership. The TBT Handbook – version 1 was handed out at the January meeting and there is information which needs to be corrected so I am working on version 2. If you notice any information that needs to be corrected or updated, please e-mail me and let me know the corrections as soon as possible. I will be bringing an updated handbook (version 2) to the February meeting. If you cannot make it to the meeting, please let me know if you would like the handbook mailed to you via snail mail. I will only mail it out if requested to save money on postage.

Chapter dues are \$15 for 2018 and the National renewal dues are \$60. You can access the chapter Membership Application form on our website at www.tollbridgetolers.org. Mail a check and the form to Toll Bridge Tolers, P.O. Box 2671, Martinez, CA 94553 or bring it to a meeting. The Society of Decorative Painters dues needs to be paid directly to the Society. You can submit payment on their website at www.decorativepainters.org or mail it in with a form. You can call them for assistance to pay the National dues. Please let me know if you have any questions or need assistance.

Karen V.



SEMINARS

Feb. 10, 2018 Karen Brouwer Seminar
Sept. 15 & 16, 2018 Sandi Strecker Seminar

There are 23 painters signed up for the Karen Brouwer Seminar on February 10, 2018 at the First Lutheran Church from 10am-4pm. Please do not arrive until 9:30 am as we will be setting up. If you are registered, you should have received a supply list from me. The registration fee includes the prepped laser cut surface, the Pearl inlay, paints, a light breakfast and lunch. Drinks provided are water and coffee (maybe orange juice at breakfast). Dessert will be provided as well. Looking forward to a fun seminar.



The two projects for the Sandi Strecker's two-day seminar in September were selected by members at the January meeting. More information and photos of the projects will be provided in the March newsletter.

THANK YOU!!

Hugs and thank yous for all the painted ornaments in my gift basket. I plan on bringing everything to the February meeting to display, so that you can all see and appreciate what a talented and creative bunch of painters you are. If you did not receive a hand written thank you note from me, there are three painted pieces without names (although I guesstimated who they might have been painted by). What a great memory it will be each year putting all the ornaments up in our tree!
Many thanks to all of you for supporting me as President the past two years!

Cathy



WAYS AND MEANS

A large handmade wooden cheese board serving tray, dip mix, oven dip casserole dish, dip knife and cocktail napkins were donated for the January drawing by Jay Otvos. Suzanne was the lucky winner. Karen has graciously volunteered to donate the February drawing prize.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

It was so good to see everyone at the January meeting. It has been a long time for me attending a meeting. I have plenty of unpainted paper mache boxes if you need one to paint a memory box. Please contact me if needed. You are all so generous with your talent. Much love.

Roz



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The awards that I handed out at our January meeting were as follows:

Donating time and items for our 20th Anniversary party-Roz.

Special Drawing prize for July- Cathy

For donating food for our Ornament Frenzy in September- Cathy, Marianne, and Trish.

Donating items for the Concord Library Display in October- Jann, Darlene, Karen, Barbara and Cathy
Painting Christmas Dinner decorations- Marianne and Jann

Thank you to everyone for your time, donations and hard work to make our chapter successful.

Shirley I.

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
January 16, 2018

Present: Connie O., Merlene R., Barbara B., Trish B., Carrie G., Karen V., Luci F., Holley Y., Darlene S., Shirley I., Roz B., Cathy McC., Vivian R., Jann O., Marianne S., Suzanne O.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Connie O.

Announcement: Connie O. advised NCCC is disbanding and our Chapter received a refund of \$582.

Treasurer Jann O. presented Darlene S. with a check for \$300 for our annual contribution to First Lutheran Church from the Bunco fundraiser for use of the Church facility.

The agenda for the general meeting to follow was developed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
January 16, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Connie O. at 7:20 pm with a quorum present.

Connie O. announced that NCCC has disbanded and our Chapter received a refund of \$582. We need to determine what we will do with the money that will benefit our active members and this will be discussed at a future time.

Seminars: Cathy McC. advised the Karen Brouwer seminar is full and circulated a sample of the project to be done on February 10. The project possibilities for the September Sandi Strecker seminar were circulated and members were asked to vote tonight for the two we want to paint. Food volunteers are needed for that two-day seminar.

Merlene R. circulated an assortment of samples for the puffed paint on a shirt class she will be teaching at the March meeting. Everyone needs to bring their own shirt to paint.

Marianne S. shared two rocks she painted that may be done at a future meeting.

Handbook: Karen V. handed out the 2018 handbook and asked to be advised of any errors.

Thank You: Jann O. read a thank you note from her daughter-in-law for the Chapter's donation for her loss in the recent North Bay fires.

Awards and Recognition: Shirley I. passed out awards to Merlene R., Trish B., Cathy McC. (2), Luci F., Marianne S. (2), Roz B., Jann O., Vivian R., Barbara B., Karen V., and Darlene S.

Mural: Merlene R. advised she was asked by Wendy O. about the Chapter painting a mural on a large wall at the "We Care" facility. Roz B. stated this was brought up several years ago and the Chapter didn't want to paint on a wall that would be painted over at a future time and preferred a wall hanging instead. She contacted the facility at that time and never heard back from them. Merlene noted if we do paint something for them, Patio Paints work well on outdoor items. She stated we are committed to painting the men's bathroom at the Veteran's Hall in Martinez and should focus on that project this year.

Wendy will be advised we want to wait a year and we need to find out exactly what they want. We prefer to paint a removable item at one of our meetings and then move it to the facility for hanging.

Thank You to Outgoing President: A basket of ornaments and other items was presented to Cathy McC. for her two years of service as our President. She also received a cutting board, holiday sweater and a crocheted scarf.

Special Drawing: Suzanne O. won the prize this evening, a cutting board, dish and napkin.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm to a glass lantern project taught by Shirley I.



NEWSLETTER

All Chapter members are welcome to submit painting or craft related articles for the newsletter. Send the articles to me via e-mail. **The deadline for newsletter articles is the last day of each month.**

Special announcement: The first person to email Trish at TBTnewsletter@comcast.net saying they saw this post, will receive a prize. Prize will be given out at the next meeting.

I try my best to keep up to date on member's email addresses. However, if you are not receiving your newsletter notification, please contact me as I may have old or incorrect information. Please send any e-mail or address changes to me at TBTNewsletter@comcast.net.

Note: The following is our policy regarding the method by which you will receive your newsletter:

If you have Internet access, you will be receiving an email to let you know that the current month's newsletter is available online at our website - www.tollbridgetolers.org

You will need to log onto the website and read or print the newsletter from there. If you need assistance, please contact Trish at TBTNewsletter@comcast.net or Loretta. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader to access and print your newsletter. There are instructions on our website which will allow you to receive your FREE copy of Acrobat Reader.

If you do not have Internet access, you have the option of receiving your newsletter via the mail or as an email attachment. You need to let me know if you choose either of these options.

June 19th- Regular Tuesday Meeting 7PM
August 18th- Bunco Fundraiser, Plumbers Hall
September 15 & 16- Sandi Strecker Seminar
September 18th- Regular Tuesday Meeting 7PM
October 16^h- Regular Tuesday Meeting 7PM
November 10th- Saturday Meeting 10AM-4PM



Happy Birthday to everyone who is celebrating their special day in February- Roz, Teri, Lucille, Shirley and Holley. And to all the March birthdays- Jan V., Jann O., Rose Marie, Wendy, Vivian, DJ, and Debbie! Enjoy your day and eat some cake! I will be back around March 16th, so Roz will be taking care of the cards for me until I get back.



The best way to contact me is either on my cell and leave a message or to send me an email, as I may be traveling.

Holley Y.



HOSPITALITY

Thanks everyone for stepping up to the plate and bringing such fun stuff!!

Snacks: Vivian R., Marianne S., and Carrie G.

Drinks: Trish B. and Karen V.

Ice: Cathy Mc

Barbara B.



TBT 2018 IMPORTANT DATES

Karen Brouwer Seminar- February 10, 2018
February 20th- Tuesday Regular Meeting 7PM
March 10th- Saturday Meeting 10AM-4PM
April 17th- Tuesday Regular Meeting 7PM
May 12th- Saturday Meeting 10AM-4PM



TIPS, HINTS AND HELPS

This portion of the newsletter is to help out our fellow painters with hints, tips, shortcuts or whatever we can share to help each other become better painters! If you find something that helped you, send it to Trish and she will make sure it goes into the newsletter the following month! We can always use a little help.

Darlene brought some wonderful Pecan Bars to the January meeting and everyone loved them and wanted the recipe, so here it is! Thanks Darlene!

DARLENE'S ULTRANUTTY PECAN BARS (From America's Test kitchen)

Toast 4 cups pecan halves (not pieces) on a rimmed baking sheet in a 350 degree oven for 8 to 12 minutes. Remove to a bowl to cool completely.

Adjust oven rack to lowest position and heat to 350 degrees. Make a foil sling in a 9 x 12 baking pan laying foil sheets perpendicular to each other with extra foil hanging over the sides (for easy removal). Push foil into corners and up sides of pan, smoothing foil flush to pan. Lightly spray with vegetable oil spray.

Crust:

Wisk 1-3/4 cups flour, 6 Tablespoons sugar and 1/2 teaspoon salt in medium bowl. Add 8 to 9 Tablespoons melted unsalted butter and mix with wooden spoon until dough begins to form. Using your hands, continue to combine until no dry flour remains. Evenly scatter Tablespoon size pieces of dough over surface of pan. Press and smooth dough into even thickness in bottom of pan.

Topping:

Wisk 3/4 cup packed light brown sugar, 1/2 cup light corn syrup, 7 Tablespoons hot melted unsalted butter, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, and 1/2 teaspoon salt together in medium bowl until smooth, about 20 seconds. Fold pecans into sugar mixture until nuts are evenly coated. Pour topping over crust spreading to edges and into corners (there may be bare spots).

Bake until topping is evenly distributed and rapidly bubbling across entire surface – 23 to 25 minutes. Transfer pan to wire rack and cool for 1-1/2 hours. Using foil overhang, lift bars out of pan and transfer to cutting board. Cut into 24 bars. (Bars can be stored at room temperature for up to 5 days.)



The purpose of the society is a central dissemination point for information about activities related to decorating painting; raise and maintain a high standard for the art of decorative painting; and stimulate interest in and appreciation for the art form.

NOTICE: First Lutheran Church is collecting foodstuffs year round for Project Share. Any donations would be welcome. Contact Darlene for details.

		Monthly	Yearly
Business card	Member	\$ 4.00	20.00
	Non Member	5.00	25.00
1/4 Page	Member	7.50	37.50
	Non Member	10.00	50.00
1/2 Page	Member	10.00	50.00
	Non Member	15.00	75.00
Full Page	Member	15.00	75.00
	Non Member	20.00	100.00

Sunflower and Strawberry Hearts

Candy Cone

Deco (Americana)

Supplies

Taffy Cream	Brushes - #4, #5 Round,
Black Plum	3/8, 3/4 Shader, Liner, Dry brush
Bright Orange	Stipple brush or small sponge
Dark Chocolate	Scissors
Evergreen	Regular Supplies
Light Avocado	I will supply the paints, you could
Olive Green	bring your own
Raw Sienna	Hair Dryer (I will bring a couple)
Tomato Red	
True Ochre	
White	

(Delta) Dark Night Blue for Background

1. **Base Background color:** (Delta) Dark Night Blue
2. **Sunflower Petals:** Base back row of petals with True Ochre, let dry. Do a second coat if needed. Base front petals with Taffy Cream. Let dry. Do a second coat if needed. Float at the base of the petals with Raw Sienna, then with Dark Chocolate. When dry stipple around the outside of large heart with Black Plum. You can use a stylist instead of the stipple brush.
3. **Strawberry Hearts:** Base with Tomato Red, let dry. Apply a second coat. Shade the left side of each strawberry heart with Black Plum. Dry brush the first highlight with Bright Orange, then dry brush with Taffy Cream. Last Highlight touch of White. Stipple diamond shapes through drywall tape with Black Plum.
4. **Stems & Leaves:** Base leaves with Evergreen, let dry, then apply a second coat. Shade at the base of the leaves with Black Plum. Highlight with Lt. Avocado and a touch of Olive Green here & there. Use a liner to put stems in with a mix of Evergreen, Lt. Avocado & a touch of Olive Green here & there.
5. **Brush** – Jo Sonja’s opal dust on the Sunflower Petals.