



Community Outreach

Oakland VA



The opportunities for material to stamp with are limited only by your imagination...



Brushes and Beyond

The Oakland veterans ventured into applying paint with many more items and in many more ways than traditional brushes. They scraped with plastic credit cards, stamped with burlap, sponges, illustration board and corrugated cardboard, drew with white crayon, plus used templates of doily. Michael Friedland brought examples from the watercolor works of Bud Shakleford, author of *Experimental Watercolor Techniques*. Sheila and Michael brought an array of stamping and template materials.

Michael demonstrated how to layout a composition by stamping with the edge of illustration board. Sheila encouraged the establishment of light and mid value areas and then applying the stamping detail and textures. The vets plunged into the project producing fanciful, architectural landscapes. We know that the idea took because in our following session a vet revealed that the beautiful burl texture in his tree had been stamped with his finger print. We were delighted and surprised to see the stamping technique so deftly applied.

Sheila Cain, CWA



Community Outreach Martinez VA



Wes and his paintings for "Year of the Pig"



Darlyn posts the CWA schedule



Valentine's Day window art by John

It has been quiet at the VA in Martinez. It seems to correlate with winter weather. New faces come in to paint and old ones drop in to say hello.

Wes has been creating "Year of the Pig" variations. Darlyn makes sure everyone knows who we are and when we will be there. John (not pictured) creates the seasonal artwork on the windows.

Our studio is open twice a month on Wednesday mornings. We would love to have you join us.

Maggie Metcalf

To volunteer, contact Maggie at Magster753@gmail.com or Victoria Bianco at avbianco@sbcglobal.net

Donations for Community Outreach

Please bring and donate your gently used Art Magazines for resale to the General Meeting Magazine Table.

The 25¢ per magazine proceeds are given and used for our Community Outreach Projects.



Community Outreach

Monet for K-5th Grade?



Annegret van Gemenen, Ruth Miller, Carol Husslein, Sheila Cain, Sue Johnston, Iretta Hunter



Early February CWA volunteer, Ruth Miller, brought a master class on “how to teach Monet-style painting to K-5th grade” to fifteen teachers of Wren Elementary School. She brought a wealth of resources, examples of Monet’s art, examples of student works in the style of Monet and art materials. Ruth explained Monet art history, distinguishing aspect of Monte’s style, and where to find resources, plus she demonstrated an art project the teachers could easily guide students to complete successfully.

Throughout the entire session Ruth emphasized how to work with K-5th grade and what was meaningful to them. For example, to explain the time period when Monet lived one might say “before your grandparents were born” or “before there was TV.” To explain Monet’s style she suggested “dabs of color.”

Following Ruth’s demonstration the Wren teachers proceeded to create their own Monet-style artwork. Five CWA volunteers circulated to encourage and assist. The first step was coloring in tree trunks, branches and a horizon line using oil pastels; then applying watercolor beginning at the top washing in the sky, shifting the color every inch down to the ground. For those going for a snowy-look or more texture, salt was available to add to the wet paint.

The teacher training concluded with Ruth complimenting everyone on their fine work and fifteen happy teachers with a Monet-like painting. Several were so taken with the class that they asked where they might pursue the learning of watercolor painting.

Thank you, Ruth, for sharing your knowledge, doing this work and being such an inspiring CWA volunteer.