



# Community Outreach

## The Oakland Veterans Paint in Values: Next Month in Color



Project: A Farm in Sebastopol

The April gathering program was inspired by the Andy Evansen's general meeting demonstration. Like Andy, we began with drawing and painting a value study emphasizing the middle values. Typically, one squints to reduce colors to greys. However, we simplified the squinting by printing the subject in values of black as well as color.

Normally we have the vets mix black, but in this situation, we worked with black watercolor, straight from the tube. Michael Friedland supplied the image, of a farm outside of Sebastopol.



Each member of the group had their approach to the project. One person, halfway through the class, launched into the color painting without any drawing. We pointed out that this was a two-month project and they might want to return to drawing. I secretly wondered how the painting would have come out had they roared right on through it with no drawing guides.

Some participants drew the entire picture and then painted the middle values. Others drew and painted a completed full-value painting. When we stopped for critique people were pretty pleased with the work. The value study paintings reflected each painter's different style. As clean-up began visiting took over with the stories and jokes that accompany these lively painting events.

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