

Decorative Wonders



A Painting Studio

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www.DecorativeWonders.com

Decorative Painting and
ONE Stroke™
Classes

Newsletter

Fall, 2004

Fall is in the air!

Fall is right around the corner. The problem is where did summer go?! Good thing it's easy to love fall - the colors, the brisk air and the holidays. As a child, it's the start of new things to come - school supplies, school clothes, teachers, and friends.

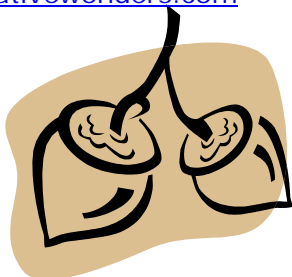
Fall is a perfect time to think about taking a class to sharpen your skills or learn something new. And, Decorative Wonders is the PERFECT place to start!

For all of you that love the terra cotta pot people, there are new ones for Halloween and Christmas/Winter. Check all the new projects that are scheduled. Lots of new classes plus some that are back by popular demand.

So, take a minute, grab a cup of coffee and browse the class offerings. There is sure to be something that you like and that fits into your schedule!

Lena Pfeffer, OSCI

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Brush-Up Classes

Having trouble finishing a project you started ages ago? Need help just finding the time? Want to learn a new flower or technique you've never tried before or sharpen your skills? Come to a **Brush-Up Class** for advice on your latest project, new ideas or just to be with other painters. So, it's time to clean out your closets and hiding places and find all those UFOs (UnFinished Objects)!!!

Girls Night-Out Parties

I have been asked by so many if the Girl's Night Out Parties are available. YES, they are! Girl's Night-Out Parties are all the rage! Learn the OneStroke Painting Technique and complete a project you can give as a gift or keep for yourself! Have fun with up to 10 of your friends! Here's how it works:

- Book an available date for a party at my home studio and invite a minimum of 4 friends with a maximum of 10.
- Each guest pays \$35.00. This fee includes 2-hours of instruction and all you need to complete the project - surface, use of paints, brushes, etc.
- There is no class fee for the hostess who books the party and who has the minimum number of students.
- Refreshments are included.

These parties are great get-togethers for friends, religious groups, senior centers, women's clubs or any group that wants to have an enjoyable time with friends!

Interested?
Call us at 732-615-0582
to book an available date!

Guests must be prepaid at least 5 days prior to the scheduled party, no exceptions! Parties must be booked with no cancellations.

Memory Box Program

If you enjoy painting and have some time to spare, please consider joining the Memory Box program. The program began in June of 1998 as a volunteer effort to provide boxes for families of infants that pass away in the hospital so that the families did not leave the hospital empty handed without any representation of that child's life. To date, the program has provided more than 60,000 boxes for infant bereavement programs, free of charge.

You can paint as few or as many boxes as you want. There are many hospitals that are registered with the program and never enough boxes to fill their need.

For more information:
<http://www.memoryboxes.org/>

New ONE Stroke Books

New books available now:

- Cigar Box Purses Plus
- Holiday Treasures
- Flowers A-Z (from North Light)
- A Season of Glass
- Decorating Your Home

Coming in the next few months:

- Flowers of the Month
- Classy Garden Pots
- Got Mailboxes?
- Terrific Table Settings
- Memorable Scrapbooks
- Babies and Kids Decor
- Wreaths for All Seasons

Tips and Techniques!

(from About.com)

How to Create Time for Painting

With all the demands that life makes, the time available for painting can get less and less. These ideas should help you find a little time daily and keep you going until you get the luxury of a few hours in a row to paint.

Here's How:

1. If space allows, leave your art materials and the painting you're working on out to avoid having to unpack before you can start working again.
2. Clean up every time you finish painting, so that your brushes waiting ready to be used when you've time again.
3. Organize your art materials so you don't waste time searching for something when you're painting. If you need to pack things away, keep essentials in one crate and infrequently used item in another.
4. Work on more than one painting at a time; this way if one is giving you trouble you can turn your attention to another until you've renewed enthusiasm or inspiration for the 'problem painting'.
5. Carry a small sketchbook and sketch or doodle in it when you're stuck waiting somewhere. People will be curious about what you're doing, but you'll get used to it. And time will pass much faster!
6. Grab a half hour each day for yourself, by getting up a bit earlier (hard in winter!) or staying up a bit later (this can be difficult to claim for yourself as family may still be awake).
7. Be more choosy in the television you watch – would the time be better spent painting? Or how about using a sketchbook to sketch some of the scenes or faces in the program?
8. If you're in a situation where you can't use a sketchbook or doodle, daydream about painting. Think through process and visualize the results; think about what you're going to do next in a painting.
9. Plan ahead so you've ideas for several paintings you'd like to do. Keep them in an ideas file or make keep a separate sketchbook for working out ideas for paintings.
10. Practice sketching the same object over and over, focusing on capturing the essence each

time, but with the long-term aim of speeding up the pace as which you can observe and sketch.

11. If you've got children, consider hiring a babysitter so you can paint. Well, you do when you go out for the evening or to the movies don't you? So why not for painting? Particularly if it's someone who can take them out for an outing.

Tips:

1. Remember that not everything you do has to be a masterpiece. A sketch is just that, a quick interpretation or capturing of something.
2. Don't feel guilty if you don't paint or sketch every day. There will be times when you simply don't feel like it or really can't make the time. But try to avoid it happening too many days in a row.
3. Annotate your sketches with notes of colors, feelings, what inspired you to want to sketch it initially. These will help bring the scene to life later.
4. As with exercise a little every day is better than a lot infrequently. And by making the most of a little bit of time you should work more productively when you've lots of time.

Recommended Websites

- My web site, Decorative Wonders:
<http://www.decorativewonders.com/>
- My web site, OneStrokeHelp:
<http://www.onestrokehelp.com/>
- One Stroke Cross-Reference:
<http://www.onestrokecrossreference.com/>
- Amaryllis Creations:
<http://www.amarylliscreations.com/>
- Donna Dewberry's One Stroke site:
<http://www.onestroke.com/>
- One Stroke Help:
<http://www.onestrokehelp.com/>
- The Stroking Edge magazine:
<http://www.thestrokingedge.com/>
- Plaid Enterprises:
<http://www.plaidonline.com/>
- DecoArt:
<http://www.decoart.com/>
- Crafters' Internet:
<http://www.craftersinternet.com/>
- Tera's Wish - Creativity for Everyone:
<http://www.teras-wish.com/>

Artists Websites

- Roxanne Jarvis:
<http://www.tolefairie.com/>
- Connie Parkinson:
<http://www.connieparkinson.com/>
- Diane Trierweiler:
<http://dianetrierweiler.com/>

Discussion Lists

- Official One Stroke list:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/onestroke_painting/
- Time to Tole (seminar announcements):
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/timetotole/>
- Tole Friends:
<http://tolefriends.com/>

Creativity

Tera's Wish (Tera Leigh):

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/teras-wish/>

The Business of Crafting

Artistic Ventures:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ArtisticVentures/>

Recipe

Bread Knots

1 1/3 cups all purpose flour
1 package quick-rise active dry yeast
1 teaspoon caraway seed -- or 1/2 to 1 teaspoon coarsely ground pepper
3/4 cup hot water -- 125F to 130F
1 tablespoon cooking oil
1 cup whole wheat flour
non-stick spray

Combine 3/4 cup of the all-purpose flour, yeast, caraway seed or pepper and 1/2 teaspoon salt in a small mixing bowl. Add water and oil. Beat with electric mixer on low speed for 30 seconds, scraping bowl constantly. Beat on high speed for 3 minutes. Stir in the whole wheat flour and as much remaining all-purpose flour as you can.

On a floured surface knead in enough of the remaining all-purpose flour to make a stiff dough that is smooth and elastic (5 to 8 minutes). Shape into a ball. Cover and let rest 15 minutes.

Divide dough into four portions. Divide each portion into six pieces. Roll each piece into an 8 to 10 inch rope. Tie each piece into a loose knot, leaving two long ends. Tuck top end under roll; bring bottom up and tuck into center of roll.

Place rolls 1 inch apart on baking sheets sprayed with nonstick coating. Cover and let rise till nearly double (about 20 minutes). Brush lightly with milk. If desired, sprinkle with additional caraway seed. Bake at 375F oven for 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown. Cool. Makes 24 rolls.