

Decorative Wonders



A Painting Studio

2 Jason Court, Holmdel, NJ 732-615-0582
www.DecorativeWonders.com

Happy New Year!!!

Happy New Year! It's 2005 and we were so busy last year we barely noticed the time swiftly passing! Believe it or not, winter is such a fun season – cold, clean winter air, bundling up in sweaters and hot cocoa!

The hustle and bustle of the season is over and now it's so important to make time for YOU! 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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Decorative Painting and
ONE Stroke™
Classes

Newsletter

Winter, 2004/2005

Classes at Other Locations

Classes are now being offered at other locations other than my home studio. If the class times do not fit your schedule, why not try one of these other locations:

Old Bridge Recreation

Mondays – 2 hour class (6:00 pm – 8:00 pm)

Session 1 – 3/14 – 4/4

Session 2 – 4/11 – 5/2

Session 3 – 5/9 – 6/6

Fridays – 1.5 hour class (9:30 am – 11:00 am)

Session 1 – 3/18 – 4/15

Session 2 – 4/22 – 5/13

Session 3 – 5/20 – 6/10

(Call 732-721-5600 x4999 to register)

MAECOM

Tinton Falls, NJ

Next classes begin 1/12, 3/8 and 4/12

6:30pm-8:30pm

(Call Linda Risetto 732-542-3439 to register)

MSEP

Matawan, NJ

Next class begins 2/5 9am or 10am

(Call 732-566-7900 to register)

AC Moore

Shrewsbury, NJ

Next classes are on 1/20 and 1/27

(Call 732-389-2940 for more information)

Mulberry Market

Colts Neck, NJ

(Call 732-683-0202 for more information)

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

We are continuing the Girl's Night Out Parties! 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.

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
- Flowers of the Month

- Classy Garden Pots
- Got Mailboxes?
- Outdoor Greetings
- OS Patio Decorating
- The Painted Scrapbook
- Clay Pots

Coming in the next few months:

- Terrific Table Settings
- Memorable Scrapbooks
- Babies and Kids Decor
- Wreaths for All Seasons
- Papercrafting with Donna Dewberry
- Painting Borders for Your Home
- Quilting with Donna Dewberry

Tips and Techniques!

Ways to make your paintings looser & freer.

If you think your paintings are too tight and controlled, this collection of tips and techniques to try should help. Don't dismiss a technique without giving it a good try as while it may seem unlikely or perhaps even daft, you may well be very surprised by the results. There is, of course, no 'magical' way to suddenly loosen up the way you work. Like everything else in painting it's a goal you have to pursue. But one that is achievable through practice and persistence.

Tip 1. Use the 'wrong' hand:

If you're left-handed, put your brush in your right hand, and if you're right-handed, put it in your left. It'll feel awkward and you won't be able to paint as precisely as you can with your dominant hand. This lack of co-ordination also means that you can't get into that automatic paint mode where your brain says "I know what an apple [for example] looks like" and you paint an idealistic apple rather than the one in front of you.

Tip 2. Work in the dark:

Well, not complete darkness, but in reduced light where you can't see every last bit of detail. Try lighting a still-life with a strong lamp from one side (oblique light). Or if you can't change the light, squint your eyes so the lights and darks in your subject become stronger.

Tip 3. Leave stuff out:

Our brains are quite adept at filling in missing details, so you needn't put down every single thing. Take a long hard look at your subject, trying to decide which the essential bits are. Put down these only, and then decide whether you want more detail or not. You'll be surprised at how little can be necessary to capture the essence of something.

Recipe

Banana Bread

1 1/4 cups sugar
1/2 cup margarine or butter -- softened
2 eggs
1 1/2 cups mashed ripe bananas (3 to 4 medium)
1/2 cup buttermilk
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup chopped nuts -- if desired

Heat oven to 350°. Grease bottoms only of 2 loaf pans, 8 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 2 1/2 inches, or 1 loaf pan, 9 x 5 x 3 inches, with shortening.

Mix sugar and margarine in large bowl. Stir in eggs until well blended. Add bananas, buttermilk and vanilla. Beat until smooth. Stir in flour, baking soda and salt just until moistened. Stir in the nuts. Pour into pans.

Bake 8-inch loaves about 1 hour, 9-inch loaf about 1 1/4 hours, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 5 minutes in pans on wire rack. Loosen sides of loaves from pans; remove from pans and place top side up on wire rack. Cool completely before slicing. Wrap tightly and store at room temperature up to 4 days, or refrigerate up to 10 days. "2 loaves"

Serving Ideas: Try toasting. Spread it with cream cheese for something a little bit different. You might even enjoy a little smear of strawberry jam on top, too.

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/>