

# First OBA Quarterly Meeting:

**Saturday, September 19th from 10 am until 4:30pm**

**Straub Center (1320 A St NE, Salem, OR 97301)**

Our first Quarterly Meeting was a huge success - if perhaps a bit lightly attended. We hope that more people will be able to come to these meetings as we get more practiced at them. Nevertheless, for those present it was fun and interesting all day long - with each segment running longer than anticipated, and the day itself extending a good hour and a half longer than planned. We learned a lot - from each other, and about what we might do differently going forward. A huge thank-you goes to Aislinn Adams and Denise Cedar for securing the venue, the refreshments, and generally hosting a wonderful full-day event.

From 10:00 until about 11:15 we just spent time nibbling, having our morning coffees; talking with each other and catching up, around artwork that people brought in to display and share.

Those present were: Carol Putnam, Jane Levy Campbell, Dorota Haber-Lehigh, Catherine Alexander, Kip Nordstrom, Janene Walkky, Rebecca Brown-Thompson, Laura Shea, Aislinn Adams, Denise Cedar, Janet Parker.

## **Announcements were made, including:**

- A Plein-Air drawing and painting event at Tryon Creek Park scheduled for Sunday, Oct 11, from 1pm until 3pm on their Trillium Trail. Janene Walkky encouraged everyone to participate.
- Jeanne Debons Workshop coming up on Halloween Weekend, Friday through Sunday.
- ASBA Conference happening Oct 15, 16, 17 in Miami, with Laurie Griff going and representing us there.
- Laurie voted in as a member of the ASBA Board of Directors this summer.
- OBA Membership dues coming due soon - pay your \$25 early to save postage!
- Dorota suggested we consider a spring or fall quarterly meeting at the coast, and perhaps one sometime at Silver Falls. And that we plan our quarterly meetings a year out, starting in January - that the (December or) January meeting be used AS the quarterly meeting at which all the planning gets accomplished.
- There was a discussion about shows - thoughts about joining up with the GNSI for a possible Plants & Pollinators exhibit, and / or one on Wicked Plants. Also maybe connecting with the Xerxes Society. As for venues, possibly contacting OSU, PCC, PSU, Lake Oswego Library, Central Library, about exhibiting our work.

## **Members' Share**

These ran to 20 or 30 minutes each, with question-and-answer time.

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**Janet Parker** gave a presentation on creating greeting cards featuring your botanical art. She talked about how it can help you to see your work in a different light - that it gives your work credibility and shareability all at once. It inspires you - not unlike having one of your pieces framed or being chosen to be included in a juried show. Besides the inspiration, she gave a good bit of practical advice, including: making an inventory of your art, registering your art with the U.S. Copyright office, recommending local printers and online printers, and showing samples of cards printed both commercially and from her own printer.

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**Janene Walkky** gave a presentation on choosing her watercolor palette for each botanical subject. She starts by looking at her subject to see which primary colors are suggested in the plant. For example, in her study of *Tangutica clematis*, she chose as her 3 primaries: Transparent Yellow, Pthalo Blue and a

dab of Permanent Rose. The first task is to match the leaves. She mixes a variety of greens using these primaries, on the same paper on which she'll be making her painting.

She likes the philosophy of "unity in diversity" in the palette. She uses a butcher tray with dabs of mixes and labels them. She mixes a neutral and a basic green leaf color in a larger quantity.

After Janene's presentation, a discussion took place about the value of including pollinators in our studies of plants - Catherine Alexander spoke as a gallery owner when she advised us all to consider including insects or birds or other pollinators, as her experience suggests that buyers appear to be more inclined toward those subjects. She suggested we connect with David Craig, a local entomologist, for a joint field trip. We might think about starting with the insect, when we go about deciding what plant to study next.

Ideas - CONNECT WITH THE XERXES SOCIETY

CONNECT WITH ENTOMOLOGIST DAVID CRAIG FOR A POSSIBLE FIELD TRIP

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**Dorota Haber-Lehigh** gave a presentation on lichens, and in particular, Lungwort, *Lobaria pulmonaria*. She shared a sketchbook filled with studies of many native plants, including Lungwort, and talked a bit about the plant and her method of depicting it. She used colored pencils for this piece. Initially she used Prismacolor pencils but now also works with Faber Castell Polychromos and Caran d'Ache Pablo pencils.

Lungwort is native to lots of places around the world. It's been used in Europe for thousands of years, in tinctures and teas to treat colds and bronchitis. University of Oregon research on Lungwort suggests it's a mild antibiotic and anti-inflammatory. There are more than 700 chemicals in the plant. Lobarias produce nitrogen - feed the forest floor. She recommends the book, "The Hidden Forest". Among the many classes she teaches, she's teaching one on the art of Ethnobotany at Seaside Highschool.

There will be a field trip on identifying lichens on October 31st through the Straub Center. And there are popular classes on Ethnobotany at the Straub Center as well.

LOTS OF RESEARCH ON PLANTS IN OLD GROWTH FORESTS IS BEING DONE RIGHT HERE - IN OREGON.

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**Aislinn Adams** gave a presentation on a project she recently received a commission to do - to illustrate 30 plants associated with the Silver Falls Park. She had walked into the gift shop there recently to inquire about selling some of her cards there, and got a call a couple of days later asking if she'd be interested in taking on this project. The park had recently received a bequest for this specific purpose. She showed how she's been organizing the project, and showed a few of her beginning sketches and studies. (Her beautiful studies of Salal are the banner art of OBA's website this quarter.)

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We broke for a quick lunch on site, and then spent the rest of the afternoon in Rebecca Brown-Thompson's workshop on how to use dividers and proportional dividers to get accurate measurements of our subjects. We started out by drawing a still life set up in front of each of us, without doing any measuring. Then we used large Plexiglas planes and erasable markers to capture the same still life. Generally, we all discovered from this exercise how much distortion there is in our attempts to draw without aid of a measuring tool. She then demonstrated how to use dividers, and proportional dividers. The proportional dividers, though an expensive tool, would seem to be invaluable for studying tiny parts that you'd want to enlarge. You set up the proportional divider tool to give you the desired percentage of enlargement. (say, you want to draw your subject at twice it's actual size.) Lock that in, and as you use one end of the tool to capture the exact measurement, the other end of the tool is giving you exactly 2X that length. Rebecca brought in a variety of plants and other objects to draw from, and was, as usual, a generous, interesting, and fun, workshop leader, and participant in the day's events.

Janet's line sheet  
for greeting cards  
featuring her  
artwork.

# Janet Parker Art & Design

Portland-based botanical artist's 5x7" Greeting Cards (blank inside) - mainly botanical and nature themes  
Cards (with envelopes) are individually wrapped in cello sleeves • Made in Oregon, some are native plant subjects  
jkp920@gmail.com 917-355-0719 (mobile) www.janetparker-art-design.com

Also see: Oregon Botanical Artists: www.oba-artists.com, and American Society of Botanical Artists: www.asba-art.org



**Inv # 041**  
**Salal (detail)**  
*Gaultheria shallon*  
Orig art - 13 x 13"  
Colored pencil on archival paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 035**  
**Donna's Persimmon**  
*Diospyros virginiana*  
Orig art - 10 x 6.5"  
Graphite on archival paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 042**  
**Phantom Orchid (detail)**  
*Cephalanthera austini*  
Orig art - 12 x 18"  
Colored pencil on black, sanded pastel paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 052**  
**Dogwood Blossom**  
*Cornus florida*  
Orig art - 8 x 10"  
Colored pencil on tinted paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 059**  
**Poet's Shooting Star (detail)**  
*Dodecatheon*  
Orig art -  
Watercolor on archival paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 046**  
**Rattlesnake orchid**  
*Goodyera oblongifolia*  
Orig art - 12 x 18"  
Colored pencil on black, sanded pastel paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 045**  
**Fairy Slipper orchid**  
*Calypso bulbosa*  
Orig art - 12 x 18"  
Colored pencil on black, sanded pastel paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 047**  
**Spotted Coralroot orchid**  
*Corallorhiza maculata*  
Orig art - 12 x 18"  
Colored pencil on black, sanded pastel paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 001**  
**Parrot Tulip detail**  
Orig art - 14 x 17"  
Colored pencil

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 051**  
**Donna's Flame Lily (details)**  
*Gloriosa superba*  
Orig art - 14 x 17"  
Graphite on archival paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 014**  
**Robin's Nest**  
Orig art - 12 x 9"  
Colored pencil on tinted paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 013**  
**Barn Swallow's Nest**  
Orig art - 11 x 14"  
Graphite on archival paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 010**  
**Cockscomb**  
*Celosia*  
Orig art - 11 x 14"  
Pen & ink

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 060**  
**Leaf Study (unknown variety of Poplar)**  
*Populus*  
Orig art - 11 x 14"  
Mixed media on archival paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 050**  
**Dahlia Marie Schmugg**  
Orig art - 11 x 14"  
Graphite and colored pencil

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 003**  
**Freesia**  
Orig art - 14 x 17"  
Colored pencil

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 036**  
**Fruit of European Linden Tree**  
*Tilia europaea*  
Orig art - 8 x 10"  
Watercolor

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 054**  
**Maurizia's wildflowers**  
Orig art - 8 x 10"  
Colored pencil on tinted paper

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



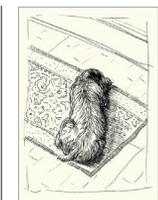
**Inv # 057**  
**Limpet Shell Study**  
*Ophi*  
Orig art - 9 x 12"  
watercolor

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 053**  
**Tuscan Bee**  
Orig art - 6 x 9"  
Watercolor

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 033**  
**Frankie Sleeping**  
Orig art - 8 x 10"  
Pen & ink

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 063**  
**Harriet's Hawaiian Friend**  
Orig art - 12 x 9"  
Watercolor

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 048**  
**Eastern Swallowtail**  
Orig art - 9 x 12"  
Colored pencil

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 049**  
**Persimmons**  
*Diospyros virginiana*  
Orig art - 12 x 9"  
Colored pencil

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



**Inv # 030**  
**Water Lily Petals**  
*Nymphaeaceae*  
Orig art - 14 x 11"  
Colored pencil

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



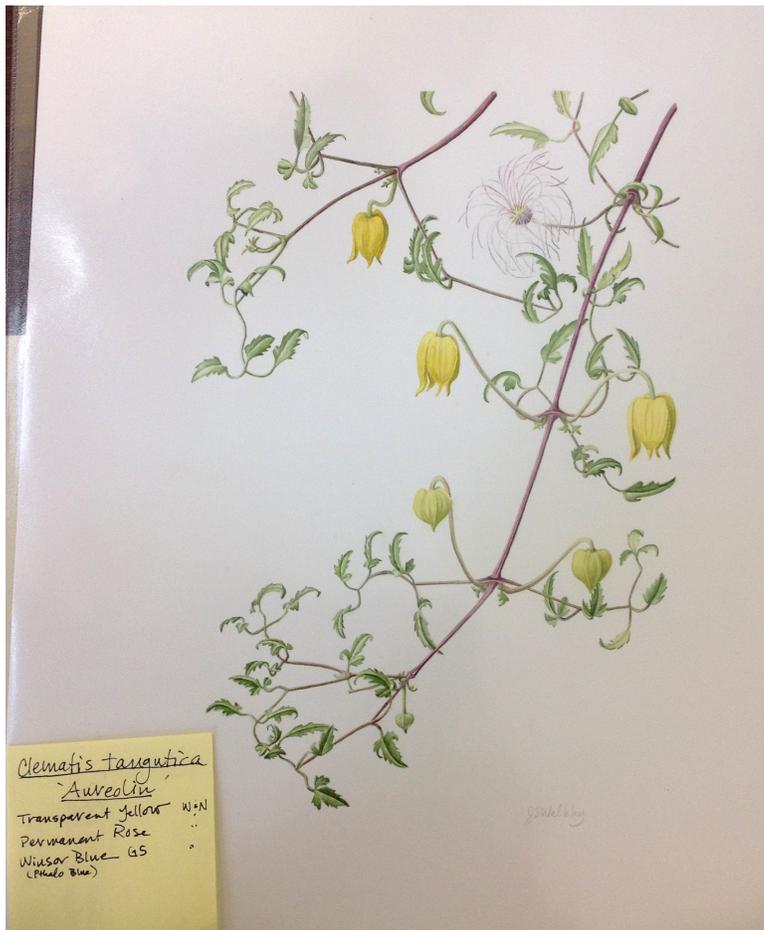
**Inv # 028**  
**Gingko Leaves for Sara**  
*Ginkgo biloba*  
Orig art - 8 x 10"  
Colored pencil

Qty \_\_\_\_\_

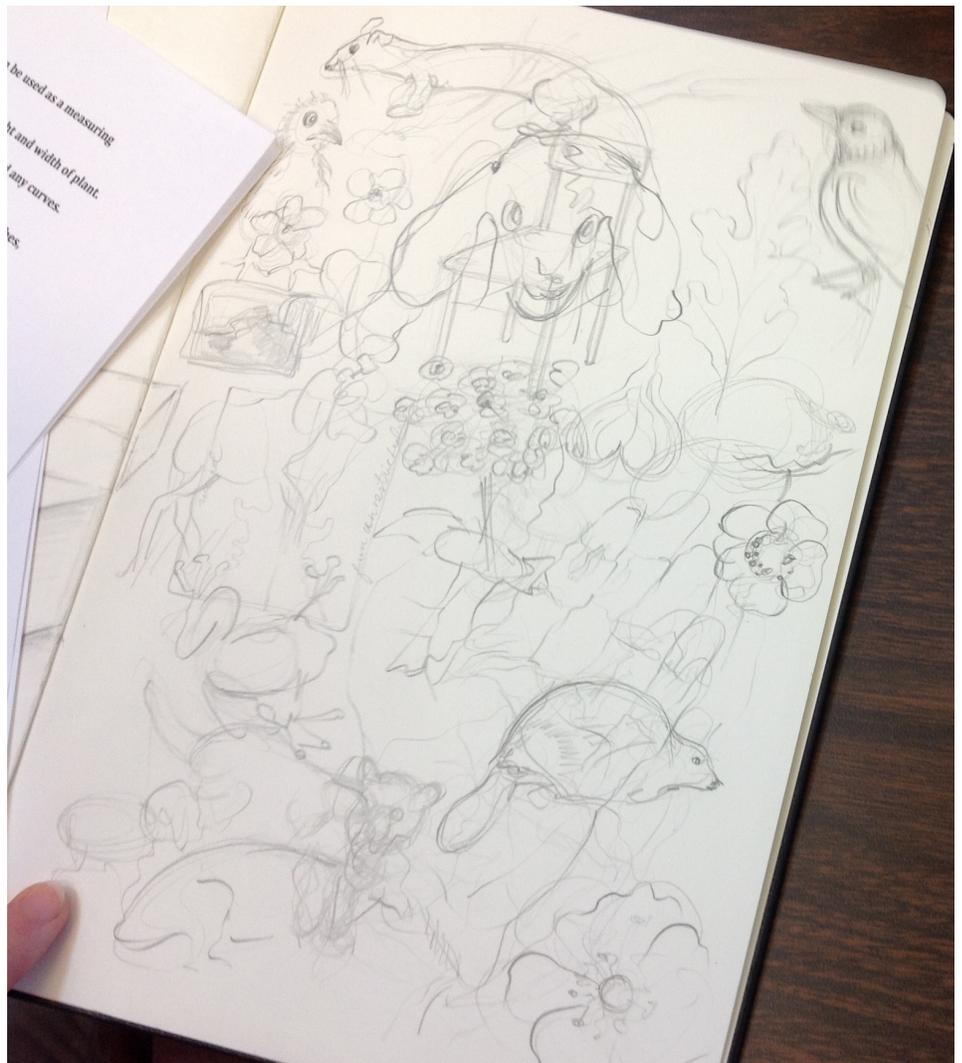
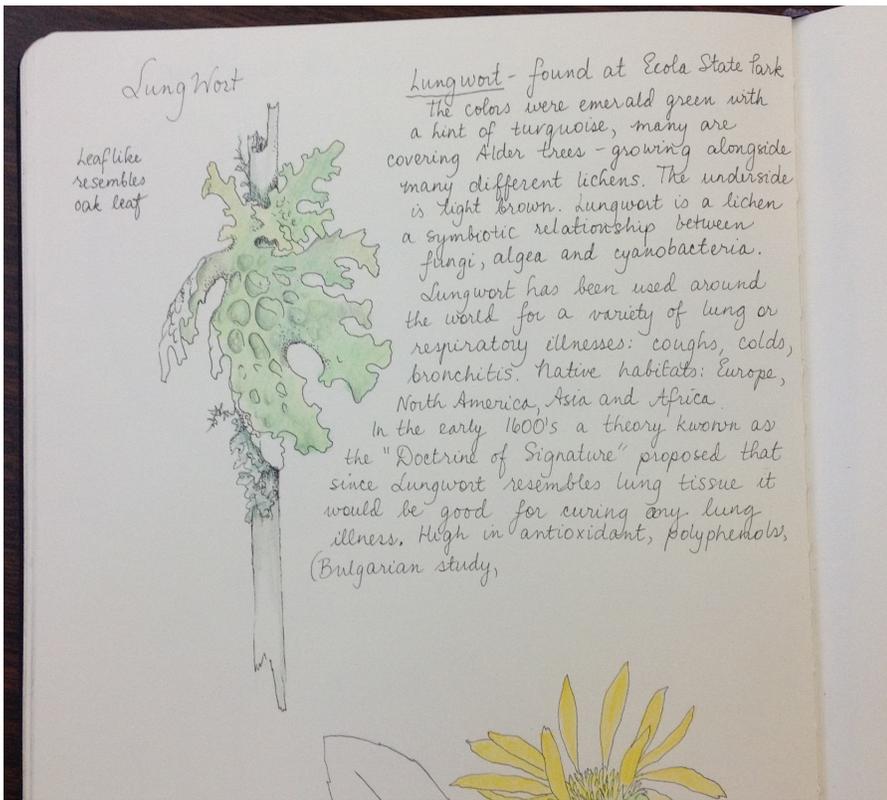


**Inv # 058**  
**Maurizia's rose**  
*Rosaceae*  
Orig art - 8 x 5"  
Watercolor study

Qty \_\_\_\_\_



Clockwise, starting from top left: Janene Walkky's *Clematis tangutica* "Aureolin"; an example of Janene's palette swatches; an example of swatches of a variety of greens using different pigment combinations; Some of the artwork on display including a current painting by Janene which includes a butterfly, and a Sequoia cone by Jeanne Debons



Clockwise, starting from top left: Dorota's sketchbook study and notes for this specimen of Lungwort; the actual specimen was brought in to share, too; a wonderful page of quick studies from a class Dorota took on nature sketching - slides were shown for 2-minute intervals, so sketches had to be quick - and in the dark. Great training for sketching moving critters!; some of Dorota's colored pencils used for her Lungwort studies.



Above, Rebecca's demonstration of using dividers. Clockwise from person in white shirt, left foreground: Kip Nordstrom, Janene Walkky, Carol Putnam, Janet Parker, Denise Cedar, Rebecca Brown Thompson, Aislinn Adams, Laura Shea, Dorota Haber Lehigh, Jane Levy Campbell.

At right, a cool new device - Rebecca's Celestron Flip View camera that takes microscopic images!

