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Linn Log

SPRING 2022



PHOTO: DAN HYDE

ARTISTS & PHOTOGRAPHERS WILL CAPTURE NATURE AT PLEIN AIR EVENT

On Sunday, May 1, artists and photographers will work *en plein air*—in the outdoors, rather than in a studio—at a time of year when nature is most vibrant and alive. The annual Plein Air Event, introduced in 2014, is sponsored by the Lewisburg Arts Council, Merrill Linn Conservancy, the Lewisburg Photography Club and Union County Historical Society.

Artists participating in the opening day of Plein Air are invited to work from 9 am to 5 pm at Dale's Ridge (the Dale-Engle-Walker

property) at 1471 Strawbridge Road and the Koons Trail on N. 4th Street in Mifflinburg. Photographers may attend one or more Nature Photo Hikes on Dale's Ridge Trail. Eight hikes, leaving from the Dale's Ridge parking area, are scheduled from 6 am to 6 pm. They will be led by Lewisburg Photography Club president Dan Hyde, and advanced members of the club.

Volunteers will be posted at the DEW site to assist artists and (Continued on page 3.)



PHOTO: DAN HYDE

PLEIN AIR EVENT

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with instructions for participating in Plein Air activities and additional art and photography opportunities in the following days. Light refreshments, including finger foods, will be offered to all from 4 to 5 pm.

Artists and photographers are invited to return to Dale's Ridge and the Koons Trail from May 2 to 8 to complete their work. They are also welcome to work at Shikellamy State Park. Detailed descriptions and directions for each site, along with guidelines for artists and general information about the Plein Air Event are available online at www.lewisburgartscouncil.com and on www.linnconservancy.org.

Bellefonte-based artist Susan Nicholas Gephart will lead this year's outdoor Plein Air workshop, from 9 am to 11 am in an area adjacent to the Dale-Engle-Walker House. The artist, who works primarily in pastels and oils, will share how her passion to explore the landscape is expressed through a unique use of color, texture, and atmosphere, capturing the emotion of a moment with spontaneity and directness. Participants are invited to bring coffee and breakfast snacks.

Registration is required for participation in the Plein Air Event workshop. To attend, go to <https://forms.gle/D6aFUiDkARKPGswE8> or email your request and information to info@lewisburgartscouncil.com

SUSAN NICHOLAS GEPHART LEADS PLEIN AIR WORKSHOP

Susan Nicholas Gephart, who has been exhibiting and painting award-winning pastel and oil landscapes for over fifty years, will present the 2022 Plein Air Workshop at the Dale-Engle-Walker property on Sunday, May 1 beginning at 9 a.m. This optional workshop is a popular feature of the day, attracting an audience eager to learn how a fellow artist approaches painting *en plein air*.

Susan works in all mediums and has a BFA from Penn State. Her passion to explore the landscape is expressed through a unique use of color, texture, and atmosphere, capturing the emotion of a moment with spontaneity and directness. Her teaching philosophy is to, "Connect, Inspire, Support"—whether working with a beginner or an experienced painter.

This demonstration will feature the pastel medium with an underpainting done in watercolor. On display and for sale, Susan will have works created on location in watercolor, oil, acrylic, and the pastel mediums. Her goal will be to connect the plein air process to all attendees and mediums. She will also share her plein air tried and true tips and tricks.

Working "*en plein air*" allows for spontaneity and directness, she says. "Responding to the sound, smell, and light of the environment influences each interpretation. I strive to capture and convey a spiritual message of nature's importance and connection to man."



Susan has been instructing pastels since the mid 80's and organizing the Hameau Farm Studio Artist Retreats for all levels and mediums for 24 years. She is a cofounder of the Plein Air Painters of Central Pennsylvania and has her own S. Nicholas Signature line of hand-rolled soft pastels called "Earth, Water, Sky."

Her colorful, impressionistic studio and plein air paintings are in private and permanent collections internationally.

More about Susan Nicholas Gephart and her work can be viewed at www.SNicholasArt.com.



PHOTO: DAN HYDE