Debby's Touch

by Debby Forshey-Choma

Building a Snowman

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Royal Brushes available through www.RoyalBrush.com
#1360 – sm, med Debby Forshey's Texture brushes
#1400 - 3/4 SG White Blending Mop
#3080 - 1 Oval Wash Combo
#4150 – 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 Majestic shaders
#4160 – 5/8 Majestic angular
#4170 – 4 Majestic filbert
#4200SL – 20/0 mini Majestic script liner
#4700 – ¾ glaze wash

DecoArt Americana Acrylics

Black Green 157	Evergreen 82	Snow White 01
Black Plum 172	Graphite 161	True Red 129
Blue Mist 178	Light French Blue 185	Uniform Blue 86
Camel 191	Light Buttermilk 164	Winter Blue 190
Cocoa 259	Red Iron Oxide 096	

DecoArt Sealers/Finishes
DuraClear Matte Varnish DS60

Surface Source
X3 – wood rectangle ornament shapes (2-1/2" x 5" each); design adjustable to surface shape of choice.

Toner Plastics available through 413.789.1300; www.tonerplastics.com
Fun Wire – 24 gauge Icy Silver #84363 – 30"

Misc Supply
Spattering Tool C-Thru Graph ruler Drill and 1/16 drill bit

Prep
1. Measure two holes at the top of the plywood plaques - ½" down from the top edges, 1"" in from the side edges.
   Drill holes with the drill and 1/16 drill bit.

   Basecoat the entire three pieces with Uniform Blue; using the glaze wash brush.
   When dry, sand, wipe off with a lint-free cloth, re-basecoat to achieve an opaque coverage.

Snow Hills
2. Transfer the snow hills to the surface.
   Corner load the angle with Winter Blue, float a wide highlight across the front side of each snow hill.
   Walk the floats out, leaving some background color between each snow hill; for shade and separation.
   Mop to soften.

   Corner load the angle with Snow White, re-float each snow hill not as wide for highlight.
   Mop to soften.

Transferring Design
3. Transfer the structures to the surface.
   Use the C-Thru Graph ruler to aid in the transfer of any straight lines, by dragging the stylus along the ruler's edge.

Background Pines
4. With a pencil and graph ruler, transfer the center line for each pine. Work only on a couple of pines at a time.
   Slightly pre-dampen the surface area with clean water. This will help the paint bleed; giving the boughs a softer effect.

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To create a different species of pines - using the filbert, the boughs will droop more then when using the shader.
Use the 4 filbert loaded with Black Green across the chisel edge.

Up on the chisel edge, vertically pull the very top of the pine.
Horizontally tap from left to right for the boughs, slowly and slightly widening as you work towards the base of the pine.
Allow a bit of the background to show through; so the pine doesn't look like a triangle.

Repeat the same steps with the remaining pines.
Now repeat the steps lightly with Snow White for snow on the boughs.

Shrubs Behind Structures

5. With the appropriate size Texture Brush and Black Green, dance in the shrubs behind structures.
   Then with Snow White on the toe of the Texture Brush, lightly dance snow on each shrub.

   For proper use of the Texture brush, use the following method.
   Dampen the bristles with water to start the separation of bristles. Tap bristles into the paint on your palette, hold it perpendicular to your palette, pounce it up and down to get some of the paint off – keeping the paint sparse on the brush. Note – this brush can be used on the whole foot or just the toe.

   Tap lightly on the surface, dance with the brush up and down, rolling the brush in different directions in between your fingers when it is up in the air (like dancing the twist, light on your feet). Allow some drying time in between dances so the paint sets up and you don't end up with a globby or muddy look.

Basecoating Structures

6. Use the appropriate size shader to basecoat the structures –
   Buttermilk – chapel walls, silo wall
   Red Iron Oxide – barn walls
   Baby Blue – walls to blue structures
   Blue Mist – walls to green structures
   Camel – walls to yellow structures
   Snow White – all roofs, snowman, snow balls

Buttermilk Basecoated Church and Silo

7. With the 20/0 liner and Camel, pull the lines on the walls of the chapel and silo.
   Use the 6 shader and thinned Cocoa, wash over the right wall of the chapel; for shade and separation.
   Corner load the angle with Camel, float shade across the top of the left wall of the chapel and down the left side of the silo wall.

Red Iron Oxide Basecoated Barn

8. With the 20/0 liner and Payne's Grey, pull the lines on the walls of the barn.
   With the appropriate size shader and thinned Payne's Grey, wash over the left side walls; for shade and separation.
   Corner load the angle with Payne's Grey, float a shade across the top of the right side wall of the barn.

Baby Blue Basecoated Structures

9. With the 20/0 liner and Payne's Grey, pull the lines on the walls of the blue structures.
   With the appropriate size shaders and thinned Payne's Grey, wash over the right side walls; for shade and separation.
   Corner load the angle with Payne's Grey, float a shade across the top of the left side wall.

Blue Mist Basecoated Structures

10. With the 20/0 liner and Payne's Grey, pull the lines on the walls of the green structures.
    With the appropriate size shaders and thinned Payne's Grey, wash over the left side walls; for shade and separation.
    Corner load the angle with Payne's Grey, float a shade across the top of the right side walls.

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Camel Basecoated Structures

11. With the 20/0 liner and Cocoa, pull the lines on the walls of the yellow structures.
    With the appropriate size shaders and thinned Cocoa, wash over the appropriate side walls; for shade and separation.
    Corner load the angle with Cocoa, float a shade across the top of the opposite walls.

Windows and Doors

12. With the appropriate size brush, pull the –
    Cocoa – yellow windows and doors
    Graphite – black windows
    Buttermilk – white doors
    Graphite – door knobs

Roofs

13. Corner load the angle with Payne's Grey, lightly float a shade across the top of each roof.
    Double load the 20/0 liner with Payne's Grey and Snow White, pull the side roof lines.

Christmas Decorations

14. Refer to photo for placements.

    Use the sm Texture brush with Evergreen, dance the wreaths on the appropriate structures.
    With the stylus and True Red, place dip dots on the wreaths for lights.

    With the stylus and True Red, place lights along the appropriate roof edges and Cocoa for the yellow lights.

    Use the 20/0 liner and Evergreen, pull garland on the appropriate structures.

Foreground Pines

15. Repeat step 4 for the three pines in the foreground on the third plaque with the snowman.

Ground Foliage

16. With the sm Texture brush and Evergreen, dance ground foliage by the structures.
    Repeat lightly with Snow White for snow.

Snowman

17. Corner load the angle with Uniform Blue, lightly float a shading under each section of the snowman to separate and the 'c' strokes for the twig arm insets.
    Then lightly float shade across the top of each snow ball.

    With the 20/0 liner and Cocoa, pull the nose and twig arms.
    Use the stylus with Graphite, place dip dots on the snowman for eyes, mouth and buttons.

Snow Areas

18. Corner load the angle with Snow White, chisel float* highlight here and there over all the snow areas, under each snow ball, under foreground foliage

    **chisel float by corner loading the angle, blend off on your palette, lay the bristles of the brush flat on the surface, chisel edge up. Push the paint on the bristles from left to right in a scratching motion, allowing the bristles to pull a broken line that is slightly floated.*

Falling Snow

19. With the Spattering Tool and thinned Snow White, spatter the entire design areas on all three plaques.

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Finishing

20. To protect your painted pieces, varnish the plaques with the Dura-Clear matte varnish; using the Oval Wash Combo brush. This brush doesn't leave any visible brushstroke marks after the varnish has dried.

Finishing Touches

21. Cut the Fun Wire into 3 – 10" pieces.
    Pull the Fun Wire through the holes on the plaques to hang; then wrap the ends around a brush handle to coil.
    Hang on a wreath or background of choice.

For questions concerning this project you can contact Debby at debbyforshey@gmail.com, www.DebbysTouch.com or on Facebook.

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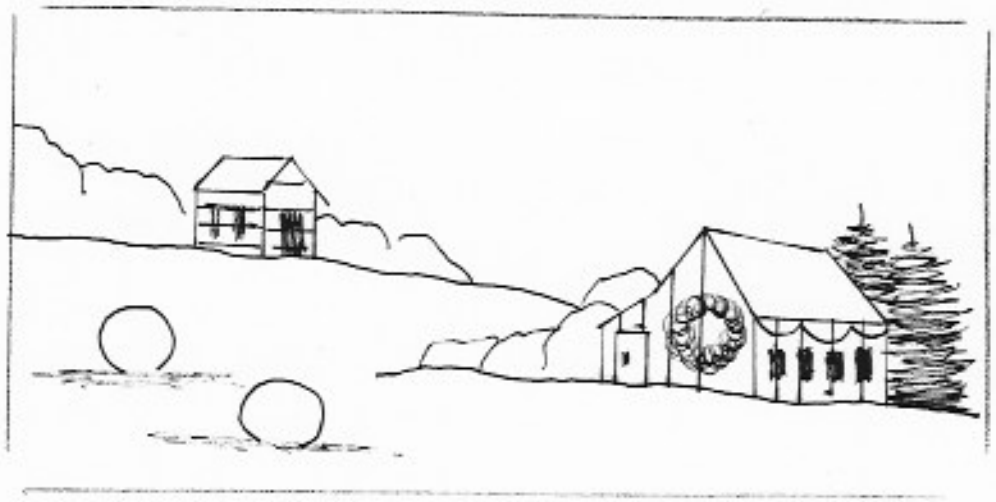

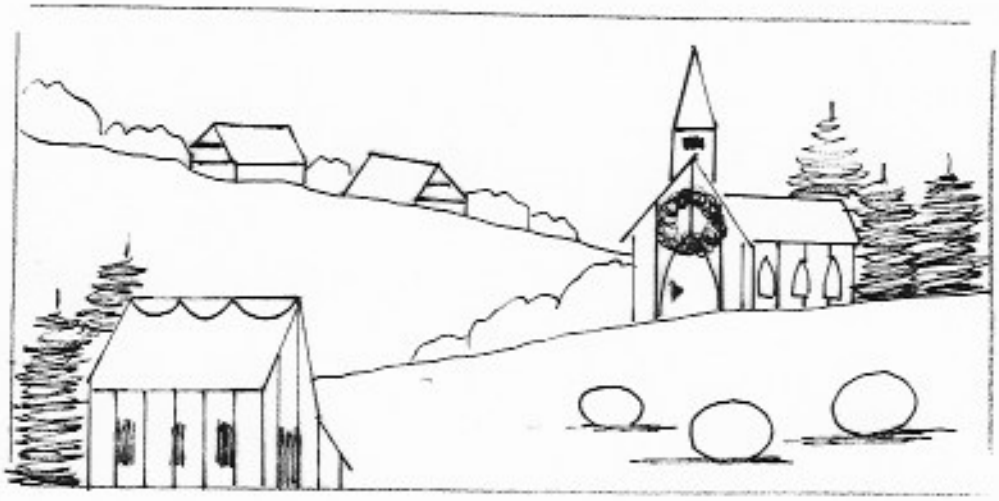

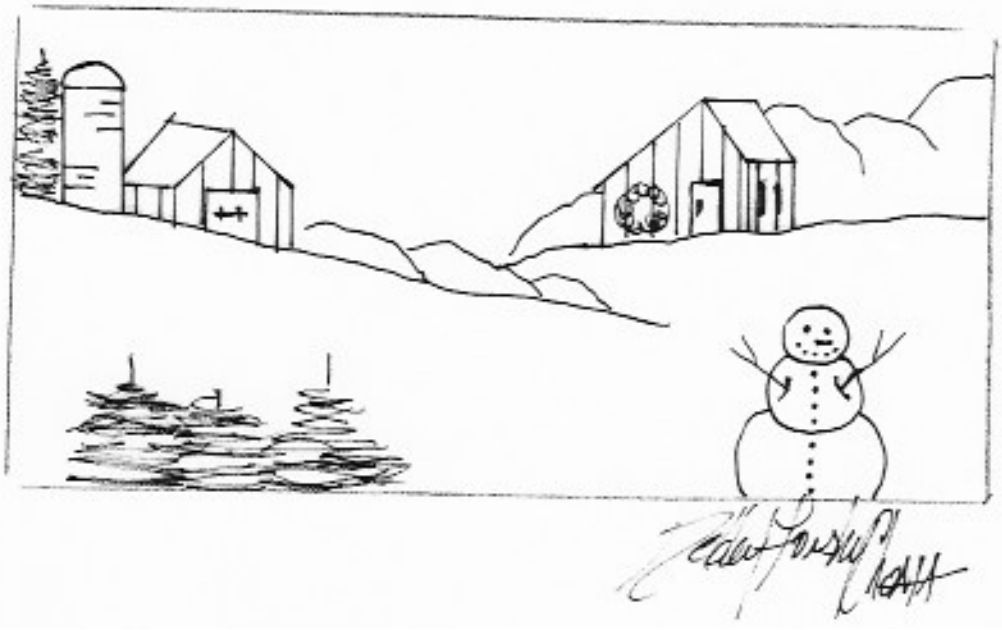

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