



Dust in the Wind

LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 2013

The Artist's Corner



Albert Einstein once said, "The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious." It becomes important to acknowledge that our creativity begins in darkness, like human life itself. There are many times that our insights may come about in flashes, and sometimes those flashes are brilliant and striking. However, these bright ideas are preceded by a gestation and growth period that is very murky and interior, but extremely necessary. Julia Cameron states it quite well, "Our ideas are our creative breakthroughs and it is important to remind ourselves that we should not take these ideas away from our creative womb too early." Patience helps us learn to wait for the idea to hatch.

Take time for experimentation and risk. Reminding ourselves to allow for doodling helps our ideas to slowly take shape and form until we can begin to see the light. Instead of trying to control our ideas, it becomes important to let them grow organically. This creative awakening is a process of surrender, not control.

At the heart of creativity is mystery and surprise. From the moment of wanting to be creative means that we are wanting to be productive. To be creative is to be productive. The creative process can never be forced. Sometimes we forge ahead like a small engine on a straight ahead path, instead of allowing ourselves to gently mull. We need to trust the darkness in order to explore our creative channels.

In this creative process, we will find ourselves needing a respectful silence.

Patricia Duncan
LCPS President

WHAT WE LEARN FROM OTHERS...I am pleased to introduce our LCPS members for the September newsletter.

Sher Lekson is our Hospitality chair person and she has volunteered her time to help with sending thank you notes to various organizations and businesses that sponsor our exhibits. We have two new members that I am featuring in this newsletter, John Heckman and Deb Kemper. I am also featuring Nancy Dahlof as well and I had the opportunity to get better acquainted with Nancy in the Albert Handell workshop very recently.

Board of Directors

Patricia Duncan
President,
952-941-1914

Bruce Koprucki
Vice President
952-448-7559

Acting Treasurer,
Bruce Koprucki

Heather Hultgren
Secretary,
651-739-1329

Cynthia Kath
Program Chair
651-297-8558

Eileen France
Exhibits Chair,
952-431-9753

Mary Ann Cleary
Lisa Stauffer
Workshop Chair,
763-552-8650

Michelle Wegler
Public Relations,
218-343-6887

Karen Stombaugh
Membership Chair,
952-473-2344

Barb Björnson
Historian,
651-636-1427

Elizabeth Strootman
Newsletter Editor,
763-427-0860



Sher Leksen

I was always quite independent, even as a small child. My parents didn't put me in a box so I was allowed a reasonable amount of freedom. I grew up in Aurora, on the Range. It was a charming life in a neighborhood of many nationalities. The mines provided us fine schools as education was a priority. As an artist beginning to blossom, I was never a very good student. One of my teachers wrote on my report card that I was a hopeless daydreamer! Late for school as the frosted trees held me captive. Springtime was most miserable as I gazed out the windows. I could walk all around the neighborhood or ride my bike, going up and down streets and alleys looking at houses and all the other buildings. Buildings have always had such a presence for me. Our house was very modest and life was so simple then. I love that time.



Day in the Sun
has been accepted into the Minnesota State Fair
Fine Arts Exhibit.

I had the same art teacher in higher grades several times. He didn't pay any attention to my abilities, despite classmates asking me for assistance with their work. The student teacher that came gave me A's, and surprised me by asking where I was going to art school. It was a spectacular moment for me! I attended night classes at UMD for a year and was very disappointed, so I still credit myself and am self taught. I have never much liked being told what to do.

I was a caretaker with my parents and Down Syndrome brother for over ten years. It was a mixture of many emotions, they were such special people. I was my brother's health care advocate because I could read him so well. I continue to paint logo statues for Hammer Residences for the disabled, where my late brother was CEO, for their annual fundraiser and other things. I still work at Maurice's part-time. I have more time at this point for my art.

My husband just retired. We have one son and daughter-in-law, and two granddaughters. They all have special talents. We live on a five acre lot with a marsh behind us, and lots of trees in our yard. Our house is high, and the views out of our windows are amazing in all seasons.

When I am painting I listen to faith radio, so I am learning positive things all the time. It gives me a sense of purpose beyond my art work.

John Fredrick Heckman

John was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He studied at the School of Associated Arts in St. Paul, and the College of Art and Design in Minneapolis. He went on to work in free lance illustration for several years, later pursuing an interest in fine arts from his studio on Mille Lacs Lake in northern Minnesota.



Beautiful Waters

Interested in cultural backgrounds, Heckman has studied the Amish, and Native American plus various other cultures in his pursuit of giving substance and personality to his paintings. Heckman has received honors and awards for his work, which are held in private and corporate collections.

Mr. Heckman currently resides in Sauk Rapids, Mn. and is the owner of Culture thru Art Co, President of Artist Guild of Central MN, A member of Lake Country Pastel Society, Arizona Pastel Artists Association and Outdoor Painters of Minnesota.

My painting called Beautiful Waters is a 9"x12" in w-c/pastels. This beautiful area is part of the Driftless Region which consists of 4 states Wisconsin, Minnesota, Northern Iowa and Illinois called the Bluff Country. All of this could be in jeopardy if we're not careful due to Fracking. Please study this issue, anyone who has visited this virgin area untouched by glaciers knows how important this is.

Artist Statement: My mission is to create beautiful art in mind, body and spirit. I intend to show art with love for all people, places and things. I find strength in nature, amazement in reflecting light, and excitement with all the seasons of color. To see more of my work or further discuss this current issue please contact me at Johnheckman.com

Debbie Kemper

The artist chapter of my life story began in 2002 with a UW Extension class in Pastel Painting. Trained and employed in engineering for more than 2 decades, I had never created fine art. After the first class, I had stumbled on a pursuit that spoke to my soul and allowed my spirit a means of expression. I have been painting with pastels ever since.

My art is about familiar places and the feelings those images evoke; whether a sense of security and "home", or a restless uneasiness. My art is about color and light and shadow and the feelings evoked by everyday beauty. My art is also about water and woods and buildings with history - the landscapes that I love. I seek emotional connections to my work.



The Creek Wakes in Spring

In 2008, my partner and I moved from Racine, WI to west central Wisconsin for work and family, especially grandkids. We bought a house in Sparta, settled into our new community and, once the chaos of moving and unpacking settled down, I resumed my love affair with painted expression: the water of my paintings changed from Lake Michigan to local rivers and creeks, the landscape to farmland, coulees and barns. I count the beauty of this area among my greatest blessings.

I have had work in juried shows in Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, Madison and LaCrosse (Wisconsin) and have won awards for my paintings. The 80+ paintings that I have sold or gifted reside all over the US, in both homes and businesses, and two are in European homes.

I am pleased to be a new member of Lake Country Pastel Society. Please don't hesitate to contact me with special requests.

Nancy Dahlof

Nancy graduated in the early Eighties with a BFA in drawing and painting from the University of Minnesota. She worked mainly in black and white doing a lot of printmaking as well, including intaglio, engraving and woodblock prints. She studied Graphic Design a couple of years later, and did some free-lance work in layout and illustration. She realized what she really wanted to do was learn more about color, and explore painting and depicting the beauty of the natural world around her. She worked on her own, and took some classes through the years, trying to keep her hand in the game while she worked full-time. A couple of years ago, after the passing of her mother, whom she had cared for towards the end of her life, she discovered that working in her studio allowed her to focus on something besides her grief. She took a class in Pastel Landscape painting at the Minnetonka Center for Arts where she met a wonderful group of supportive and fun women to paint with. She just finished the workshop with Albert Handell and enjoyed doing her first "Plein Air" painting. For her, the journey and process of painting is something that makes her feel truly alive and connected to the world. She shares a house in St. Louis Park with her tabby cat named Franny.

They take

good care of each other. She has family here in town, including two brothers and their families, who are all very supportive, and bring a lot of joy to her life as well. She looks forward to growing in the field of painting, and learning from the community of artists she meets along the way.

*The Birches**Cynthia Kath...*

received an Honorable Mention at the Jaques 2013 Plein Air Competition held July 17-20 in Aitkin MN. with this pastel.

Mary Hill Manor

Joanne Meierhofer...



won the Port Wing Plein Air Festival Quick Paint competition held August 1-4 with this painting!

Sailboat in the Lagoon



MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

**WE CELEBRATE THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SEVERAL LCPS MEMBERS
WHO HAD THEIR ARTWORK JURIED INTO THE 2013 FINE ARTS EXHIBIT**



Turning Toward the Light



Flavors of Fall

Patricia Duncan

Heather Hultgren



Sher Leksen

Day in the Sun II



Judy Lieber

Ready. Set. LIFT!



Karen Stombaugh

Polyporous Giganteus

Carole Zartner

Along the Edge



Upcoming Member Shows



Dianna Shandorf

invites you to her solo show in
the Gardenview Gallery at
St. Barnabas Center for the Arts,
in Plymouth, September 1 - 29.
Visit www.shandorfpastels.com
for more information.

Apples and Peppers



Quartzite Rise

Karen Stombaugh...

invites you to
Sacred Rock,
Sacred Ground
an exhibit of soft pastel paintings,
inspired from scenery at the
Pipestone National Monument.
October 2 - 31.

Opening reception:
Saturday, Oct. 5, 4 - 8 pm at the

 ROBBIN GALLERY

4915 42nd Ave Robbinsdale, MN 55422

See www.robbinsdalegallery.org for directions, 763-537-5906

Gallery Hours: Noon - 4 pm Wed - Sat, Thurs evenings 5:30-8 pm

Karen will be present during Gallery hours demonstrating the use of pastels.

Come and paint with her!!



Elizabeth Strootman...

invites you to a solo show of her work
at the White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church
328 Maple St, Mahtomedi, MN 55115

October 13th - November 17th.
Opening Reception:
October 20th from 12:00 - 2:00 pm

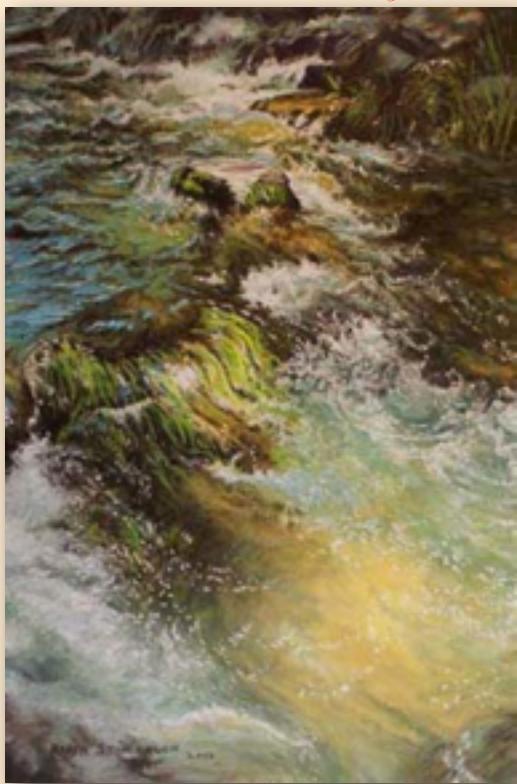
visit <http://whitebearunitarian.org> for directions

Garlic and Herbs

Enduring Brilliance!

We are proud to congratulate two of our members whose work has been accepted into the Pastel Society Of America's 41st Annual Exhibition: Enduring Brilliance. The exhibit is held during the month of September in the main gallery of The National Arts Club, a historic mansion located in the Gramercy Park area of Manhattan.

Karen Stombaugh



Lisa Stauffer



The Tail of the Whistling Swan

Bravo!

Rushing Waters

See pastelsocietyofamerica.org for more details.



LCPS 2013 Workshop

We had an inspirational week painting around town with Albert Handell!

Mary Ann Cleary will be our new Workshop Chair for Lake Country Pastel Society. She can be contacted through email: maryann@maryanncleary.com and phone: 763-552-8650.

We are ever so grateful for Lisa Stauffer's contributions and leadership as the past Workshop Chair. Lisa will continue to help with Mary Ann Cleary's transition into this chair position.

Thoughts from Albert Handell

I've been following my instincts....I come from an intuitive place... I get excited by something and I jump in and I go through a process and it becomes an experience. My pictures are an adventure they're not an alphabet A to Z. As a matter of fact ... in my opinion there's no Z in this alphabet.... what's a finished painting... when you have a certain amount of beauty that justifies its existence it deserves to live.

When the pressure on the pastel is continuously adjusted, each color has more flexibility and variations to it. In pastel, there's a breathing quality to each color. I refer to this variation in appearance as "bloom". And there is a lot of variety and beauty to the bloom of each and every color.

Rhythm has become very important to me as an artist. A stationary tree or a moving stream turns and twists and gives evidence of an inner life. Those repetitive patterns are often subtle rather than dramatic. I capture the moments in time that suggest change.

Bloomington Art Center Exhibit: Make Your Mark

Our annual LCPS members exhibit, held at the Bloomington Theater and Art Center, was such a fabulous show! We had a record number of entries, 81 paintings, and the quality and variety of those entries gave the viewers an outstanding exhibit. We had a great turnout for both the opening reception held on Friday, July 19th and the awards presentation given by Albert Handell on Tuesday, August 6th.

Thanks to all who participated in this event and to all who helped, especially, Eileen France, our exhibits chair, Cheryl LeClair Sommer, who put together our prospectus, Kathy Fleming, who handled all the entries and then organized everything perfectly, and Michelle Wegler, who spent long hours preparing the booklet of entries and artist statements to be available during the show. We are grateful for our wonderful volunteers, please take the time to thank those who contribute and help make these opportunities possible.

Make Your Mark

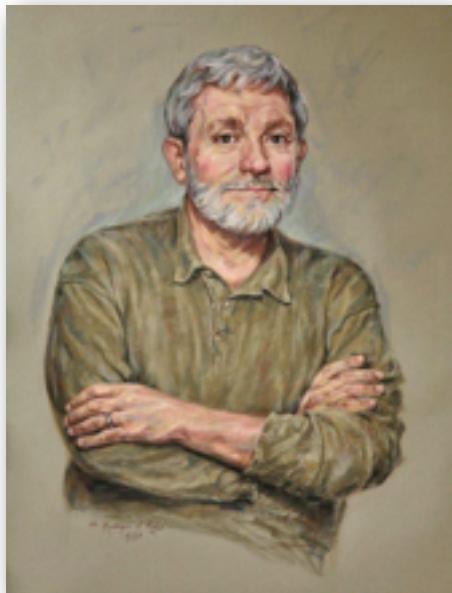


Best of Show

Sandra Dowd

'Artist Emerging with Attitude'

Make Your Mark



First Place

Kathy Kobs

'Randy'



Second Place

Cynthia Kath

'Incoming Set'



Third Place

Sher Leksen

'Day in the Sun'

Merit Award



Shirley Peterson

'In a Sunbeam'



Dianna Shandorf

'Garden Path'



Fred Somers

'Long Shadow, Lazy Water'

Honorable Mention



Mary Ann Cleary
'Serenity'

Melody O'Conner Allen

'Lake Harriet Parkway Approaching the Bandshell'



Carol Pruchnofski

'Orioles and Oranges'



Honorable Mention



Lisa Stauffer

'White Snow, White Pine'



Karen Stombaugh

'Sacred Tree'

People's Choice

We had a three way tie for the People's Choice Award:

Mary Ann Cleary ~ Morning Light

Sandra Dowd ~ Artist Emerging with Attitude

Melody O'Conner Allen ~ Lake Harriet Parkway Approaching the Bandshell



Mary Ann Cleary

'Morning Light'

OUR MEMBERS AT THE NEW RICHMOND EXHIBIT



New Richmond Hospital Opening Reception



New Richmond exhibit, our Vice President, Bruce Koprucki

The New Richmond Westfield Hospital in New Richmond, Wisconsin has a beautiful exhibit of some of our members work. The opening reception took place on Thursday evening, July 18th. Chelsea Kelly from the Phipps Center Healing Arts Program has done a marvelous job of coordinating these programs and exhibits. In addition to this location, the Phipps Center for the Arts has their own exhibits, along with the Hudson Hospital and the Croixdale Center for their "Healing Arts Program". The exhibit will be up until the end of September, so be sure to stop by and view all of the lovely work of our LCPS members.

Board Highlights for July:

As summer comes to a close and we enter into the wonderful season of autumn, we are reminded of the beauty of creation around us---crisp autumn air, chirping crickets, vibrant fall foliage. A perfect time to paint with pastels! We thank all members who participated in the New Richmond Exhibit and the "Make Your Mark" Bloomington show and workshop with Albert Handell. Congratulations to all prize winners! All the work was outstanding! We enjoyed our paint-out and potluck in July as well as getting to know new members.

We look forward to our new website launch in September and thank Barb Bjornson, Elizabeth Strootman, and Mark Ellis for all their hard work. We are also planning to launch a mentoring program, and hope members will participate in that. More details to come. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, September 10, 5:30 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Members meeting. Members are always welcome at Board meetings. We will welcome Fred Somers as our speaker that night. Fred is very inspirational and shares the true heart of the artist. Hope to see you there!

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hultgren
Board Secretary



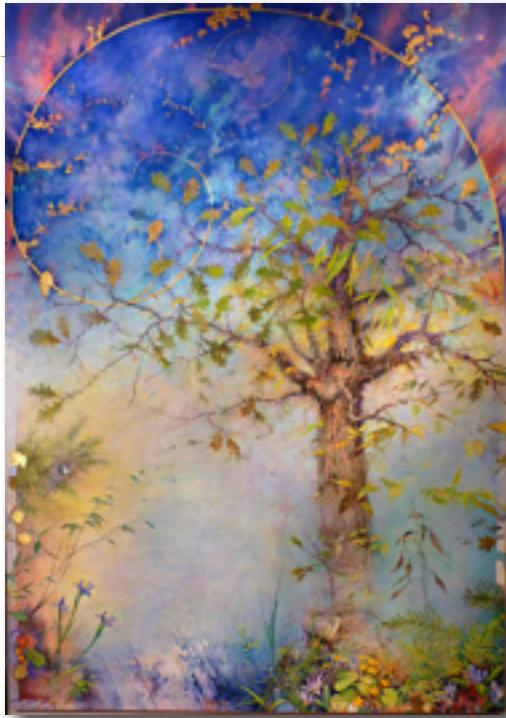
July Picnic Highlights

Goethe once said "The moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too." Likewise, it took faith to downplay the severe weather forecast for late Tuesday July 9, commit to the annual LCPS paint-out and picnic at Tony Schmidt Park-Arden Hills, then profit from great weather. Or so it seemed!

An increasing number of painters—veterans, new members, and some from as far as Sparta WI and Sauk Rapids MN-- arrived over the course of the 1:30-5:30 paint-out "window." We captured scenes either near the shelter—and its snacks, drinks, and CD jazz—or at outlying, rustic settings. However, the great weather was not without its challenges as swiftly changing clouds, light, and shadows kept us scrambling.

Later, officers and committee chairs met for a spell over an hour as the rest of the twenty-some total attendees wrapped up their works or viewed those finished earlier by the others. The picnic followed, with ample entries, salads, desserts, and beverages to share with fun and fellowship before a brief all-members meeting. Finally, we set up our day's paintings and sketches for viewing and learning with suggestions if requested. Clean-up concluded before darkness, bugs and garish orange security lights tarnished what was a wonderful time for all.

Bruce Koprucki



Song of Heaven, Let There Be Light

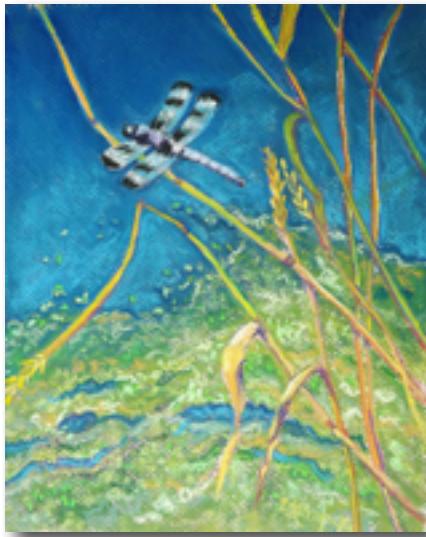
September Program

September LCPS Member Meeting
Tuesday September 10th, 7 - 9:00 p.m.

You are invited to join Fred Somers for an evening of conversation about his Carondelett Villages Commission and about his art.

In 2011 Fred completed a special commission. In collaboration with the Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelett in St. Paul, MN, he created a 6'8" x 9'6" oil painting with 22 carat gold leaf. Within the painting are multiple "short stories". Fred will be showing a film of his process and speaking about this special art piece and his art.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE: 31 PAINTINGS IN 31 DAYS



Dragonfly on Water's Edge

During July I participated in a daily painting challenge sponsored by Arizona Pastel Society which I heard about on a Facebook pastel site. By July 31 I had 31 new paintings, and a great deal of pride in my accomplishment. Many factors worked together to help me accomplish this. My personal artistic goals for this year are to take my art more seriously, work on focused improvement, improve my art/work habits, and find venues to show/sell. This challenge helped meet those goals. Each day we posted our completed paintings on the "challenge blog" [<http://dailypastels.blogspot.com/>] which provided accountability, as did daily posting on my own blog [<http://www.debjkemper.blogspot.com/>] and Facebook page. Daily comments and "likes" on Facebook encouraged me! I painted plein air with local artist friends each week, and at my first LCPS meeting, which provided social painting - a welcome variation. I completed 4 paintings unfinished at the time the challenge began on days when I needed to take less time. I told as many people as I could

that I was doing this, another accountability step. A friend asked me if I ever dreaded painting; what I answered was that once I got started, the rest felt *almost* effortless once painting took me to my "zone" –so I pushed myself to dive right in. Sometimes I picked out a subject in the evening for the next day, a few days I even began the initial drawing the night before. My drive to complete the challenge successfully got stronger with each day and each painting.

Classes taught by LCPS members



Autumn Road

PASTEL WORKSHOP
WITH
CYNTHIA KATH
Sept. 29-30
at the



JAQUES
ART CENTER

121 Second St. NW -
Aitkin, MN 56431
218-927-2363
info@jaquesart.com

GRAND MARAIS ART COLONY WORKSHOPS

120 WEST 3RD AVENUE PO BOX 626 GRAND MARAIS, MINNESOTA 55604 218-387-2737 arts@boreal.org

HOME WORKSHOPS FACILITY MEMBERSHIP EVENTS NEWS PHOTOS INSTRUCTORS ABOUT US PARTNERS/LODGING

HARVEST BOUNTY IN PASTEL

October 12 - 13 (& 14 optional); 2 (or 3) days; 9 am - 4 pm

Instructor: Lisa Stauffer
Location: Founders Hall
Tuition: \$150.00
Class Size: 12

The harvest bounty of autumn is magical to capture in pastel. We will use this theme to set up still life items and experience how these studies apply to painting all subject matter. Bring photos of fall landscape or seasonal harvest with high contrast to use for composing a painting. Class time will include painting basics, demonstrations, personal assistance, group critiques and fun.

A variety of pastels and papers will be available for purchase from your instructor.

Students can choose to take this as a 2 or 3-day class. The 3-day tuition is \$225.





Northrup King Building, Dock 5, 1500 Jackson St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413
svoigt@visi.com or 651-353-5045, <http://www.susanfryervoigt.com>

During class: Work at your own pace on your own projects. Use Watercolor, Acrylic, Pastels, Casein, Ink, Oil (water-miscible or odorless solvents). Instructor assistance and demos provided. Learn more about: Color, Line, Values, Products, Perspective, Composition, Design, & lots of techniques!

\$30 for the first class in a calendar month and \$25 for each additional class. Check the website for the demo at each class.

Please email Susan to register or call 651-353-5045. Small Classes – Maximum 6 participants, PLEASE LET ME KNOW YOU ARE COMING.



* Sat. Sept 7th Acrylic and Collage \$125 includes all materials. 10-4 PM



* Sat. Sept 14th Magical Mono Prints \$125 includes all materials.
10-4 PM



* Sat. September 21st NEW!! Experimental Ink and Acrylic II – Inside the Lines
\$125 includes all materials. 10-4 PM



* Sat. Sept 28th The Value of Values \$125 includes all materials. 10-4 PM



* Sat. Oct 19th Rolling and Troweling with Watercolor
\$125 includes all materials. 10-4 PM



Colorado On Fire

Other Workshop Opportunities

dougawsonartist.com

DAWSON WORKSHOPS 2013
 Ph 303 421-4584 dougawson8@aol.com
 8622 W. 44th Place
 Wheat Ridge, Co. 80033

Colorado—Littleton 2/8-2/10
 Florida—Leesburg 3/11-3/13
 So. Car—Hilton Head Island 5/28-5/30
 New Mexico—Albuquerque 6/5-6/6
 Connecticut—Georgetown 6/17- 6/19
 Connecticut—Georgetown 6/21- 6/23
 New Mexico—Santa Fe 7/1-7/3
 Massachusetts—Falmouth 9/27- 9/29
 N. Y.—New York City 10/4-10/6/13

Please let Pat know
if you have any items that you would like
added to the board meeting agenda.

LCPS 2013 Calendar

TIMES: 5:30 LCPS board meeting
 all are welcome
 7:00 Member meeting begins

SEPT 10 LCPS board & member meetings
OCT 15 DEADLINE for newsletter
NOV 12 LCPS board & member meetings
DEC 15 DEADLINE for newsletter

Map to New Brighton Family Service Center for September Meetings



Mission Statement: We seek to unite artists from beginner to professional who are interested in the pastel medium and to serve their needs by encouraging artistic growth and development through education and sharing. We also work to create public awareness of pastel as a unique and beautiful art form.