



# *Dust in the Wind*

LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY

MAY 2015

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### **Newsletter:**

Barb Björnson

**“The art of living is more like wrestling than dancing”-- Marcus Aurelius.**

If you're just emerging from winter hibernation or returning from warmer climates, we here in Minnesota and the upper Midwest have moved swiftly from the season of colds and flu to the seasons of spring fever and road construction. Yes, spring fever may be great for spontaneity, plein air paint-outs, and strolling through art fairs, but it can play havoc with discipline, spring semester grades, studio painting, and those mundane “must do” framing, business and household tasks! And yes, the “art” of living with spring fever **is** more like wrestling than dancing!

One solution to spring fever (and road construction): plan ahead! Planning for road construction season means checking MnDOT and county public works websites and allowing extra drive time. In an artistic paradox, planning for spring fever means planning for the unexpected and for spontaneity as well as planning for the Lake Minnetonka Studio Tour, St Paul Art Crawl, Art-A-Whirl, our LCPS events, and countless other art fairs and workshops. Our LCPS Workshop, Program, and Exhibit chairs have done a great job in structuring programs and events over the coming months that can help all of us grow as pastelists.

First, a reminder that the opening reception for our **LCPS Hudson Hospital exhibit** is Friday, **May 8** from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. If you can join us despite the distance and traffic, we'd like to see you! If not, we hope you can drop by to see it in the OB/Gyn wing sometime through July 12.

No LCPS events are scheduled for June, but Fred & Avis Somers, Pat Duncan, Lisa Stauffer, and others are bound for the sold-out **IAPS convention** in Albuquerque, NM. Meanwhile, the Red Wing Plein Air Art Festival will be underway June 22-27. Finally, Fred Somers announced at our March meeting that he will host a special anniversary event at his farm near Northfield the weekend of June 19-20 to which all LCPS members are invited. More details on page 15.

continued on page 2.....





There are three other events to plan for. LCPS will also again judge pastel entries at the **Minnesota State Fair** and offer two awards.

LCPS will be primary host for a featured program by artist **Joe Paquet** on **September 18** at the New Brighton Family Center.

There will also be the annual Arts in Harmony exhibit sponsored by the Elk River Arts Alliance in Elk River in early 2016.

In other news, the Board has begun examining options for online payment for LCPS dues and fees. This process is still in early stages and we'd welcome those with experience setting up and/or using online payment to help in committee with the goal to be operational within a year. A survey of March meeting attendees revealed more than two-thirds are ready for online payment.

Although we have activities planned almost a year in advance, we **still need volunteers** in key positions. We thank Barb Björnson for graciously stepping up to serve as Newsletter Chair in addition to her roles as Website Coordinator and Historian. However, we need volunteers to step forward and serve two-year terms as **Vice-President, Secretary, and Exhibits Chair**. In brief, the **Vice-President** is the President-elect, will observe and support the President in his/her roles, substitute in the President's absence, and carry out special projects as needed. The **Secretary** takes paraphrased notes at Board meetings, prepares them into meeting minutes over a couple hours outside the meetings, and serves as Compliance Officer for oversight in conjunction with our accountant. The **Exhibits Chair** has the major responsibility to overseeing the Exhibits committee. He/she will schedule our exhibits, serve as liaison with our exhibit venues, oversee publicity, entries, judge selection and judging, prizes, set-up, and take-down. The exhibits chair position can be shared by 2 people if desired. Outgoing secretary Heather Hultgren and outgoing Exhibits Chair Eileen France can provide more details on their respective positions.

Plan ahead for an exciting, wonderful painting season!

**"A life of reaction is a life of slavery, intellectually and spiritually. One must fight for a life of action, not reaction"-- Rita Mae Brown**

Regards,  
**Bruce Koprucki**  
LCPS President

**~ WELCOME ~**  
**New Members**

Nancy Trask

Pauline Hoffine

Mary Sabin





**Thank you**  
to LCPS members who are  
volunteering and have  
volunteered.  
The pastel society  
appreciates  
**ALL** that you do.

### From Lisa Stauffer

I took Elizabeth Mowry to see Fred Somers show at the Benedictine Center along with fellow LCPS members Eileen France and Linda Pecorari and we all agree that this is a fantastic collection of artwork- very inspiring- and it is up until May 15, the details are in the previous LCPS newsletter. Do go and see it before it comes down- words really do not describe how wonderful these works of art are, and the chance to see them displayed all together is not to be missed!

### Question from March newsletter.

Now that **Wallis paper** seems to be unavailable, I would be curious what the members are using.

**Duane Graham**

### Answer from Lisa Stauffer.

#### Replacements for Wallis paper:

I recommend the pastel panel from [multimediaartboard.com](http://multimediaartboard.com), this is a tough product which is stiff enough to frame without having to mount, and will take any type of underpainting treatment without having to mount it either. It has a bit more texture than wallis paper had, somewhat like a watercolor paper between hot and cold press.

The other option is a new paper in white and Italian clay (midvalue neutral) from [dakotapastels.com](http://dakotapastels.com). Craig made this hoping to be able to fill that gap felt by the pastel community missing their old favorite! Elizabeth Mowry said she was happy with it when she used it, some of her class demos were on the Italian clay colored Pastel Premier paper.

\* Lisa just got a note from Wet Paint in St. Paul and they will be carrying the full range of pastel premier paper. We can buy it right here at home!



# Programs

## May

The May 12th meeting will be a small group critique session. We'll break down into small groups to view our fellow member's paintings. It should be an informal and friendly way to get feedback on our paintings. Everyone please bring one or two unframed pastels that are underway or finished. We'll have a large group discussion at the end of our viewing and share comments on what is important when we critique our own pastels. We would like to have people share what planning they do before starting a pastel.

We will also have Heather Hultgren and Cheryl LeClaire-Sommer speaking to us about the participants experiences this past year in the mentoring program. We hope to have many of those involved in the program at our meeting.

## July

Our July 14th meeting will be the annual paint out and potluck picnic dinner. We will be having it at the Long Lake Regional Park, just around the corner from the location of our regular meetings. The picnic shelter near the beach has been reserved for the whole day, come around 1:30 and enjoy the park and painting time. A short board meeting will be at 5:30 with everyone welcome, followed by potluck and viewing the days paintings.

## September

The September 8 meeting will feature reports from members who attended the International Association of Pastel Societies convention in June.

Also mini-demonstrations and discussions on applying underpaintings for different surfaces.



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 WWW.WETPAINTART.COM  
 651-698-6431  
 M-F: 10AM-8PM SAT: 10AM-6PM SUN: 12PM-5PM



# Exhibits

The Lake Country Pastel Society is currently included in "**A Healing Arts Exhibition**" which opened on **April 15** and will continue until **July 12** in the OB/Gyn wing at the Hudson Hospital and Clinic in Hudson, Wisconsin. There will be a **reception** for all on **Friday, May 8, from 6 - 8 P.M.**

Our annual judged exhibit will be held at the **Red Wing Depot Gallery** from August 29 - October 27. Each member may submit one painting which must be for sale. Awards will total over \$1000. We are honored to have Mary Pettis as our Judge.

You may download the prospectus at : [www.lakecountrypastelsociety.org](http://www.lakecountrypastelsociety.org) It is located on the exhibit page.

## Just in!

LCPS will have an exhibit at the **Hopkins Center for the Arts, January 14 through February 14 2016**. Delivery/installation will be January 12, 2016; removal will be February 17, 2016. A winter theme for the exhibit is likely, and a promotional image has yet to be selected. More info will become available later as plans progress.



## Appeal for Exhibit Chair or Co-chairs

Once again we are making an appeal for someone to coordinate our exhibits in the future. We have scheduled a show for Hopkins Center for the Arts for next January and we continue to seek other venues so we can have opportunities to exhibit. We welcome your help and I know I have been very pleased with all the volunteers who have worked with me these past few years. Please give me a call 952-431-9753 or e-mail [franceart@earthlink.net](mailto:franceart@earthlink.net).



# Workshops

LCPS will host the **Barbara Janieke** workshop from **July 31-August 2**. The workshop is sold out, contact Mary Ann Cleary or Cynthia Kath to reserve a spot on the waiting list.

The workshop committee is very excited to announce an **abstract 3-day workshop** with **Debora Stewart**. Wednesday April 24 through Friday April 26, 2016. More details will be released as they become available.

## Debora L. Stewart PSA IAPS MC

**Author of Abstract Art Painting: Expressions in Mixed Media by Northlight Books.**  
**Northlight Video series out summer 2015!**

### Explore the Excitement of Abstraction!



Learn to loosen up, tap into your intuition, create abstract compositions, use underpaintings and pastel ground and create abstract realism with flowers and figures. Learning abstract techniques will open your work to new possibilities. Workshops are fun, energetic and structured to give you the tools to explore the excitement of abstraction. Thorough handouts are provided for each participant. Emphasis on pastel but acrylic artists are also welcome.

Debora Stewart creates paintings in pastel, acrylic and oils. Her abstract paintings often contain elements of nature. She also works with abstract realism and some of her subjects include flowers, figures, animals and landscapes.

Debora has won awards from Pastel Journal magazine, International Artist Magazine and the Pastel Society of America. She was a recent judge for the Pastel 100 competition of Pastel Journal magazine. She is represented by galleries in Iowa, Wisconsin, California, Indiana and Arizona. She has taught workshops throughout the U.S.

[www.deboralstewart.com](http://www.deboralstewart.com)   <http://deboralstewart.blogspot.com>



# Opportunities

## PASTEL PLEIN AIR PAINTING

July 6 - 10, 2015; 5 days; 9am - 4pm

Instructor: [Lisa Stauffer](#)

Location: [Founders Hall](#)

Tuition: \$375.00 Class Size:10

Paint outside with pastel in beautiful Grand Marais. The basics of outdoor painting will be discussed throughout the week, as well as topics including choosing a subject, design and compositional considerations, importance of accurate drawing, painting fundamentals, and more. Lisa will provide demonstrations, personal assistance, and group critiques in a fun and supportive environment.

*A variety of pastels and papers will be available for purchase.*

This class will be cancelled on **Monday, June 29, 2015**, if minimum student enrollment has not been met. Please register before this date.

[www.grandmaraisartcolony.org](http://www.grandmaraisartcolony.org)



### Painting with Soft Pastels #1018

**Laurie Toth**

Section A: Wednesdays, June 10 – July 15, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. (6 sessions)

Section B: Wednesdays, July 22 – August 26, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.(6 sessions)

**\$120/M; \$135/NM**

*For ages 16 and up*

Pastel pigments create gorgeous colors and allow for interesting texture and pictorial effects. Treat yourself to an exploration of pastels, and share your growth with a group of other painters. There will be instructor demonstrations, group discussion, and plenty of one-on-one help in this fun and supportive class.

For more information call: <tel:952-563-8575>. Bloomington Theater and Art Center  
1800 W Old Shakopee Road Bloomington, MN 55431



## .....more Opportunities.....

### More classes with Laurie Toth

#### Handmade Pastel Sticks

##### Ages 16-Adult

Always have the colors you want in your soft pastel set by making your own. You'll learn to make light lights, dark darks and subtle colors in between. With this class and some elbow grease, you can increase your range of colors by over 50 colors. You'll gain a great understanding of color and the wonderful soft pastel medium. This class is suited for older teens and adults who are beginners through professional. This class may not be appropriate for those with respiratory or hand issues. Class fee includes pigments and materials to make a minimum of 100 half sticks per participant. We will take a 1 hour lunch break on Saturday. Questions, (651) 675-5521.

#### **Saturday, August 1 & Sunday, August 2 Class #23067**

*Register by Friday, July 24*

**Time** Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**Cost** \$152/person

**Location** Eagan Art House  
Main Studio

**Instructor** Laurie Toth

#### Painting in Acrylics, Pastels or Oils

##### Ages 14-Adult

Choose one medium and enjoy this encouraging, self-paced class with individualized attention. Whether you are a beginning or an advancing painter, you'll learn techniques to improve your artwork. For a complete supply list for this class, visit [www.eaganarthouse.org](http://www.eaganarthouse.org). Supplies for beginning painters will be discussed at the first class. Instructor Laurie Toth is an award-winning artist with a keen eye for color and composition.

#### **Tuesday, June 9 - July 14**

**9:30 a.m. - Noon Class #22823**

**6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Class #22824**

*Register by Thursday, June 4*

#### **Tuesday, July 21 - August 25**

**9:30 a.m. - Noon Class #22825**

**6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Class #22826**

*Register by Thursday, July 16*

**Cost** \$120/person

**Location** Eagan Art House,  
General Studio

**Instructor** Laurie Toth

All classes take place at the Eagan Art House, 3981 Lexington Avenue South, Eagan. To register, call the Eagan Parks & Recreation office at 651-675-5500 or on-line at [www.cityofeagan.com/econnect](http://www.cityofeagan.com/econnect). For more information, call 651-675-5521.





# Elizabeth Mowry Meeting



We were privileged at our March 17th meeting to have nationally-known pastelists and workshop leader, **Elizabeth Mowry** give a demonstration on her technique for almost the full time of the session.

While she worked Elizabeth also made a number of great points including:

- \* Paint what you want versus what's actually there.
- \* "We don't have to paint something just as it is."
- \* "Have the confidence to paint in the way that you wish, and the story will come true."
- \* TRY things!

As Elizabeth talked she worked on a landscape made up of sky, trees, a bit of water, and the "foggy" atmosphere for which she is most widely known. She demonstrated the "push-pull" method she uses to push pigment into the paper.

Though standing at an easel for our demonstration, she most often works with her pastel supports on her lap.

She usually starts laying in the sky first, followed by massing in the composition's basic shapes, and then making marks that get smaller and smaller.

She used a pastel pencil to blend edges, using strokes that mostly, but not always, went in the same direction, then adding even more tiny details with pastel pencils.

Though Elizabeth wasn't overly fond of the landscape she created at our meeting, we who watched and listened appreciated her masterly effort and wise words. And she had other finished paintings out on display though which we could see her techniques more fully realized.

We will do our best to remember: "Refining, refining, refining," the importance of creating "sky-holes" in our trees, and, perhaps most importantly, "You don't forget the things that you've figured out yourself."

Thank you, Elizabeth Mowry, for an unforgettable evening. **Sue Rowe**





# Elizabeth Mowry Workshop



We had a wonderful, informative workshop with Elizabeth Mowry this March. She painted some very evocative demonstrations for us and inspired the group to paint many wonderful paintings ourselves during the week. I think we all have a new appreciation of the painting possibilities that we can create from our knowledge of seasons and atmosphere combined with our plein air and photo references. The final viewing on Friday had us thinking we were ready for the class Gallery show!

**Lisa Stauffer**





# Member's News



## Karen Stombaugh

My pastel painting, Over the Dam, Pipestone Creek was accepted into the IAPS 26th Juried Exhibition at the 2015 IAPS convention in Albuquerque for this June.

## Sandra Dowd

I just returned from Flagstaff AZ where I painted a large portrait of Beethoven for the Flagstaff Symphony Gala. I was painting to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony played live by members of the symphony. A good time was had by all.

**David Bratzel** will have an exhibit of paintings up during the month of May at the Red Rock Art Center in Fairmont, MN. The show, entitled "An Evocative Journey", will include pastels, acrylics, prints and mixed media pieces.

Example shown,  
"Bittersweet Journey III"  
pastel- 18 x 24





## .....continued Member's News.....

### Rita Corrigan



My pastel, ***Autumn Inspiration*** (the one that was accepted into the WARM show at the Phipps!) has been selected for the 41st Annual Northern Lights Juried Art Exhibition at the White Bear Center for the Arts. The show runs from April 13-June 4.

Currently I have an exhibit of 15 of my abstract Resurrection pieces at St Joseph's Catholic in Rosemount, MN. The exhibit will be up until May 24. The church is open from 8 - 4 Monday thru Friday, and during services on the week-end.



### Sue Rowe

Sue Rowe exhibited three pastel paintings at the WRAP Exhibition, March 15 to April 19, at the River Falls (WI) Public Library.

Title: Dots and Squares  
Size: 18" x 12"



## .....continued Member's News.....



Beyond Blue 18 x 24" 2015



Through Gates with Laughter 24 x 17 1/2" 2015

### Fred Somers

Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona has acquired 3 Pastel Paintings by Fred Somers. The paintings will be introduced to the public Thursday April 16 at the opening for an exhibit of wood block etchings by Winslow Homer. The museum selected paintings they felt represented a progression of Fred's current work and he is very grateful for the opportunity to be part of the their permanent collection.



Drawn to the Light 16 x 22" 2014

### Lisa Stauffer

I am thrilled to have a small note about the plein air win in Mineral Point and a photo of my painting, Winter Creek, in the newest Plein Air magazine, April/May 2015, page 107.





## .....continued Member's News.....

### Pat Duncan

Earth Arts Spring Art Tour - first weekend in May  
Upper St. Croix Valley.

I will be showing at the the ArtZ Gallery in Amery, WI. I will also be one of the featured artists in May. We have our opening reception on Friday, May 8th. from 5:00 - 8:00p.m. To access the information about the Art Crawl, go to the website - [www.earthartswi.org](http://www.earthartswi.org)



### Lisa Stauffer

Two of my paintings were accepted into the Master Circle Show which will be on display during the IAPS convention in Albuquerque this June. I will be demonstrating for Multimedia Art board painting on their Pastel Panels during the convention- stop by to say hello if you are in NM!

### Linda Ricklefs Baudry

Unforeseen Poetry and Art

Linda Ricklefs Baudry is in a collaborative group exhibit pairing poets with artists in all media. The exhibit runs through June 18, 2015. Gallery One Tractor Works is open to the public M-F 8-6pm. 800 Washington Ave. N. Minneapolis, MN 55401





Hope you can join us to celebrate Fred Somers Studio and Gallery  
40th Anniversary and our 100 year old granary.

Potluck Picnic & Paint Out Saturday June 20



Somers Studio and Gallery 9775  
Dennison Blvd. So. Northfield, MN  
55057 507-645-5031

5.5 miles Southeast of Northfield On  
State Highway 246 GPS:  
44.406094,-93.104622

Paint What You Love, Walk in the  
Light! Fred and Avis Somers

40 Years of Studio Memories

Since Fred began painting in the basement  
of our rented farm-home in 1975 so very  
much has transpired. Fred's first large

commissioned oil painting was created in this dark unheated granary that is now houses his light-filled  
gallery and studio.

Within a few mile radius are numerous century-old barns and farmsteads, the Big Woods State Park  
with Hidden Falls, and Caron Park all of which have been inspiration for many of Fred's paintings.

Come as early as you wish. Maps will be available to guide you to the farms and parks. (State Park  
Sticker required at Big Woods but you might carpool)

Around 5 p.m. join us for a potluck picnic at our place. We will provide cold well water, iced tea, fires for  
grilling and disposable dinnerware.

Please bring:

- 1 ☐ you're own chairs
- 2 ☐ beverages if you prefer something else
- 3 ☐ meat (and buns) for yourself and your guests
- 4 ☐ a dish to share

You can even be free again to paint the sunset if you'd like. Lake Country Pastel Society and  
Outdoor Painters of Minnesota are also invited so let's enjoy a beautiful day with some of  
Minnesota's Best!

In case of a deluge: postponed. Otherwise, you decide. We paint en plein air - right?



# 2015 Calendar

## Lake Country Pastel Society Calendar 2015

### May 12

5:30 Board Meeting  
7:00 Critique Member Meeting

### June 2-June 7

IAPS Convention Albuquerque NM

### June 15

Deadline for Newsletter

### July 14

Paint-out 1:30-5:30  
Board Meeting 5:30 followed by  
potluck

### July 31-August 2

Barbara Jaenicke Workshop

### August 15

Deadline for Newsletter

### August 29-October 27

Red Wing Depot Exhibit

### Sept 8

5:30 Board Meeting  
7:00 Member's Meeting

### October 15

Deadline for Newsletter

### November 10

5:30 Board Meeting  
7:00 Member's Meeting

### December 10

Deadline for Newsletter



## In case of bad weather.....

LCPS will email members by noon the day of the meeting and will contact people who don't have email. If you have questions, call Bruce Koprucki 952-448-7559 or email:

Bruce Koprucki  
<chaparralwoodart@gmail.com>

## 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.